

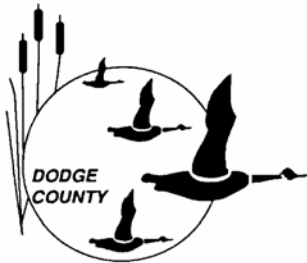


Town of Burnett

Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan



Foth & Van Dyke



Ordinance No. 31

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN BOARD, TOWN OF BURNETT, TO ADOPT
THE TOWN OF BURNETT YEAR 2030 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

The Town Board of the Town of Burnett, Dodge County, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

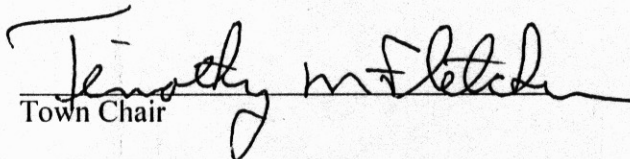
- SECTION 1. Pursuant to sections 60.22(3) and 62.23(2) and (3), Wisconsin Statutes, the Town of Burnett is authorized to prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan as defined in sections 66.1001(1)(a) and 66.1001(2), Wisconsin Statutes.
- SECTION 2. The Town Board of the Town of Burnett has adopted written procedures designed to foster public participation during preparation of the comprehensive plan as required by section 66.1001(4)(a), Wisconsin Statutes.
- SECTION 3. The Town of Burnett Planning Committee, comprised of the Town Board, Plan Commission, and Board of Adjustment, by a majority vote of the Committee recorded in its official minutes dated March 8, 2005, adopted a resolution recommending to the Town Board that the document entitled "Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan" containing all of the elements specified in section 66.1001(2), Wisconsin Statutes, be adopted subject to further plan revisions deemed necessary by the Committee following a public hearing of the recommended "Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan".
- SECTION 4. The Town of Burnett has provided numerous opportunities for public involvement in accordance with the public participation strategy adopted by the Plan Commission including numerous public meetings with respect to preparation of the "Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan", a public informational meeting on December 6th, 2004, and public hearings on April 11, 2005, October 11, 2005, and April 10, 2006, in compliance with the requirements of Section 66.1001(4), Wisconsin Statutes.
- SECTION 5. The Town of Burnett Planning Committee, by a majority vote recorded in its official minutes dated November 28, 2005, reaffirmed its' recommendation that the Town Board adopt the document entitled "Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan" as amended (with a document date of November, 2005, for the Recommendations Report and a document date of March, 2005, for the Inventory & Trends Report).
- SECTION 6. The Town Board of the Town of Burnett did, on December 13, 2005, receive and consider the Planning Committee's recommendation and elected to send the "Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan" back to the Planning Committee for reconsideration and action regarding proposed non-farm residential development density provisions.
- SECTION 7. The Town of Burnett Planning Committee, by a majority vote recorded at its meeting of February 27, 2006, revised portions of the "Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan" pertaining to non-farm residential development density in the agricultural area.

- SECTION 8. The Town Board of the Town of Burnett did, on April 10, 2006, following a joint public hearing held with the Planning Committee, receive and accept the Planning Committee's revised recommendation regarding the "Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan".
- SECTION 9. The Town Board of the Town of Burnett does, by the enactment of this ordinance, formally adopt the document entitled, "Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan", as attached hereto by reference pursuant to Section 66.1001(4)(c), Wisconsin Statutes.
- SECTION 10. This ordinance shall take effect upon passage by a majority vote of the members-elect of the Town Board and publication/posting as required by law.

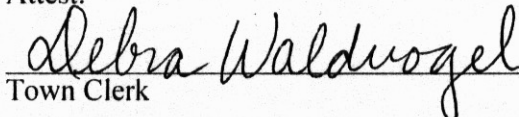
ADOPTED this 10TH day of April, 2006.

Voting: Aye 2 Nay 1

Published/Posted on: April 10, 2006.


Town Chair

Attest:


Town Clerk

RECOMMENDATION OF THE JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PLANNING
COMMITTEE TO ADOPT THE TOWN OF BURNETT YEAR 2030 COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN AS REVISED

WHEREAS, pursuant to sections 62.23(2) and (3), Wisconsin Statutes, for cities, villages, and those towns exercising village powers under section 60.22(3), the Town of Burnett is authorized to prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan consistent with the content and procedure requirements in sections 66.1001(1)(a), 66.1001(2), and 66.1001(4); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Burnett Town Board, Plan Commission, and Board of Adjustment, hereby called the Joint Planning Committee, were jointly responsible to prepare the *Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan* in conjunction with a multi-jurisdictional planning effort to prepare the Dodge County Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Committee has prepared the *Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan* with assistance from the Dodge County Planning & Development Department and consultants Foth & Van Dyke; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 66.1001(4)(b) the Town of Burnett Plan Commission has the authority to recommend that the Town Board adopt an ordinance for the purpose of adopting the *Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan* after the document has been publicly reviewed and a public hearing executed; and

NOW, THEREFORE; BE IT RESOLVED, THAT as a result of a third public hearing of the "Recommended Draft" (as revised) the Joint Planning Committee recommends that the Town Board adopt the document entitled "*Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan*" with the any additional revisions included herein by motion of the Committee in accordance with section 66.1001, Wisconsin Statutes.

ADOPTED this 10th day of April, 2006.

Motion for adoption moved by:

Motion for adoption seconded by:

Voting Aye: 6 Voting Nay: 4

Duane Branenborg

Brian Korth

Phil Waldvogel

Phil Waldvogel, Chairman Joint Planning Committee

ATTEST:

Debra Waldvogel
Debra Waldvogel, Town Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 4504

TO THE HONORABLE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF Burnett, DODGE
COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Members:

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Legislature has established a "Smart Growth Law" which requires a local governmental unit to develop a comprehensive plan in accordance with Chapter 66.1001 of the Wisconsin State Statutes, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Burnett has delegated the responsibility to develop a plan consistent with the requirements specified by law to the Town of Burnett Plan Commission, and

WHEREAS, The governing body of a local governmental unit shall adopt written procedures that are designed to foster public participation in every stage of the preparation of a comprehensive plan;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that public participation in the development of the comprehensive plan shall include, but not be limited to the following activities: public input meetings, news releases, committee meetings, legal notices, posting of meeting notices at public places, and open meetings for which the public is entitled to have advanced notice. Additionally, all informational items used and produced by the Commission shall be made available for public review at the Town Hall. Written comments on all subjects pertaining to the development of this plan shall be encouraged. An address to forward written comments shall be provided in meeting notices and news releases. The Commission shall respond to written comments at public meetings.

All of which is respectfully submitted this 5 day of April, 2004.

John C. Paschke
Plan Commission Chairperson

Adopted this 14 day of April, 2004.

Kenneth E. Nitschke
, Town Chairman

Kenneth E. Wood
, Supervisor

John G. Mufil
, Supervisor

ATTEST:
Debra Waldvogel
Town Clerk

TOWN OF BURNETT DODGE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Adopted April 10, 2006

Town Board

Tim Fletcher, Chairman
Kenneth Woock, Supervisor
John Meylink, Supervisor
Debra Waldvogel, Clerk-Treasurer

Town Plan Commission

John Peachey, Chairman
Dale Braunschweig
Ray Butterbrodt
Don Luck
Wayne Moul

Town Board of Appeals

Philip Waldvogel, Chairman
Duane Brandenburg
Kenneth Nitschke
Ronald Woock
Brian Korth

This report was prepared by
Foth & Van Dyke and Associates, Inc.
under the Community Services Planning Program of the
Dodge County Planning, Development and Parks Department

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Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan Inventory and Trends Report

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1 Issues and Opportunities



1. Issues and Opportunities

1.1 Introduction

The Issues and Opportunities Element of the comprehensive plan provides background information on the Town of Burnett, including information on the planning process, public participation, demographic information, and trends and forecasts that may impact the town.

The Town of Burnett is located in the north central portion of Dodge County. The Town of Burnett is bounded by the Town of Chester to the north, the Town of Williamstown to the east, the Town of Oak Grove to the South, and the Towns of Beaver Dam and Trenton to the west. The City of Horicon is located along the south east border of the Town and the City of Beaver Dam is located approximately 6 miles from the center of the Town. STH 26 provides a direct north - south transportation route through the Town of Burnett, also CTH I is a north – south transportation route. CTH E is located in the southern portion of the Town and is the major east - west transportation route. Map 1-1, Appendix A shows the regional setting of the Town of Burnett.

In the summer of 2002, the Town of Burnett signed a Resolution agreeing to participate in the Dodge County Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for the general purpose of guiding and accomplishing coordinated growth management within the Town of Burnett. With staff assistance from Dodge County Planning and Development Department and Foth & Van Dyke & Associates Inc., the comprehensive planning effort began where the *Town of Burnett Land Use Plan -2001* left off. The 2001 plan (which actually started in 1999) focused on development of a community opinion survey, a land use plan document, and a future land use map. The plan was completed and was found to be of value to Burnett. However, during development of the land use plan, the state of Wisconsin adopted what is now statute 66.1001, or the Comprehensive Planning law. Whereas the 2001 land use plan focused on one element (land use), the Comprehensive Planning law requires the town to address nine elements as follows:

1. Issues and opportunities.
2. Housing.
3. Transportation.
4. Utilities and community facilities.
5. Agricultural, natural and cultural resources.
6. Economic development.
7. Intergovernmental cooperation.
8. Land use.
9. Implementation.

To meet the requirements of the planning law, the Town of Burnett decided it financially beneficial to participate in the Dodge County Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan process. The effort invested in the 2001 land use plan was captured within this plan.

The *Town of Burnett Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan* document is divided into two separate reports, the Inventory and Trends Report and the Recommendations Report. The Inventory and Trends Report contains the necessary background information and maps about the Town of

Burnett and points out important trends. The Recommendations Report contains the policies, goals, and objectives of the Town and the recommendations for future action. All maps for the *Inventory & Trends Report* and the *Recommendations Report* are included in Appendix A. Overall, this planning effort is intended to serve as a guide to assist the Town of Burnett in making decisions concerning the conservation and development of land over the next 20 years and beyond.

1.2 Planning Process

In November of 2002, the Dodge County Planning and Development Department and Foth & Van Dyke & Associates Inc. prepared a Comprehensive Planning Grant application on behalf of the Town of Burnett and 18 other communities in Dodge County. In February of 2003, the County was informed by the state that Dodge County, the Town of Burnett, and the other participating communities were awarded a \$321,000 comprehensive planning grant (see map 1-2). On April 30, 2003, the contract with the Wisconsin Department of Administration to produce a comprehensive plan document within 30 months became effective.

In June of 2003, the Town of Burnett signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Dodge County Planning and Development Department to assist with the development of a Town Comprehensive Plan. The planning program called for a Comprehensive Plan document, a current land use map, and a future land use map. Mapping for the planning program involved the recording, classifying, and analyzing of current land uses in the Town. From this information, a base map with property lines was developed along with an existing land use map and a series of future land use maps.

Wisconsin Statutes, Section 62.23 by reference from Section 60.62 provides that it is a function of the Town Plan Commission to make and certify to the Town Board, a plan for the physical development of the Town of Burnett. The plan's general purpose is in guiding and accomplishing a coordinated, adjusted, and harmonious development...which will, in accordance with existing and future needs, best promote public health, safety, morals, order, convenience, prosperity, or the general welfare, as well as efficiency and economy in the process of development. Wisconsin Statutes, Section 66.1001, further defines a comprehensive plan and a local unit of government's responsibilities. This legislation requires that a community that engages in land use regulations develop and adopt a comprehensive plan. The plan must contain nine elements as specified in the statutes. It also requires that all land use decisions be consistent with the comprehensive plan.

Policies, goals, and objectives stated in this document reflect the deliberations of the Town Plan Commission and Town Board, based on the comments and opinions expressed by the people within the Town of Burnett. References made to specific state, county, and other governmental programs do not imply endorsement of such plans, but are presented for background and reference only.

1.3 Public Participation Efforts

The Town of Burnett adopted a Public Participation Plan at the beginning of the comprehensive planning process based on input from the Town Plan Commission. The following core efforts

were identified to foster public participation above and beyond the statutory requirements of Wisconsin's Smart Growth law:

- ♦ All meetings will be open to the public;
- ♦ Notices and press releases will be sent to local media outlets identifying the time and location of public informational meetings and public hearings;
- ♦ Materials will be kept at the Town Hall and the City of Horicon library for review by local residents and interested persons;
- ♦ Information about regional meetings and the Multi-Jurisdiction Comprehensive Plan will be available on the Dodge County Planning and Development Department website.

In addition, an address to forward written comments shall be provided in meeting notices and news releases. The Commission shall respond to written comments at public meetings. A copy of the Public Participation Resolution is included in Appendix II.

1.4 Population Characteristics

Population Counts

Population change is the primary component in tracking a community's past growth as well as predicting future population trends. Population characteristics relate directly to the community's housing, educational, utility, community, and recreational facility needs, as well as its future economic development. Tables 1-1 and 1-2 display population trends and changes from 1960 to 2000 for all municipalities in Dodge County.

Table 1-1
Population Trends, Dodge County, 1960-2000

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
T. Ashippun	1,376	1,500	1,929	1,783	2,308
T. Beaver Dam	1,509	1,933	3,030	3,097	3,440
T. Burnett	899	875	917	915	919
T. Calamus	908	934	1,077	1,009	1,005
T. Chester	933	1,060	981	797	960
T. Clyman	852	889	815	742	849
T. Elba	928	960	1,028	964	1,086
T. Emmet	969	1,050	1,089	1,014	1,221
T. Fox Lake	793	1,501	1,674	1,928	2,402
T. Herman	1,145	1,215	1,131	1,127	1,207
T. Hubbard	1,079	1,301	1,508	1,390	1,643
T. Hustisford	891	1,034	1,262	1,209	1,379
T. Lebanon	1,212	1,278	1,518	1,630	1,664
T. Leroy	1,086	1,146	1,110	1,025	1,116
T. Lomira	1,242	1,247	1,391	1,280	1,228
T. Lowell	1,205	1,254	1,205	1,134	1,169
T. Oak Grove	1,543	1,326	1,333	1,200	1,126
T. Portland	879	915	976	994	1,106
T. Rubicon	1,355	1,564	1,759	1,709	2,005
T. Shields	625	602	584	500	554
T. Theresa	1,092	1,174	1,152	1,083	1,080
T. Trenton	1,221	1,406	1,319	1,299	1,301
T. Westford	890	1,006	1,203	1,248	1,400
T. Williamstown	659	659	657	692	646
V. Brownsville	276	374	433	415	570
V. Clyman	259	328	317	370	388
V. Hustisford	708	789	874	979	1,135
V. Iron Ridge	419	480	766	887	998
V. Kekoskee	247	233	224	218	169
V. Lomira	807	1,084	1,446	1,542	2,233
V. Lowell	341	322	326	312	366
V. Neosho	345	400	575	658	593
V. Randolph*	978	1,089	1,206	1,227	1,346
V. Reeseville	491	566	649	673	703
V. Theresa	570	611	766	771	1,252
C. Beaver Dam	13,118	14,265	14,149	14,196	15,169
C. Columbus*	0	0	0	10	36
C. Fox Lake	1,181	1,242	1,373	1,279	1,454
C. Hartford*	0	0	0	9	10
C. Horicon	2,996	3,356	3,584	3,873	3,775
C. Juneau	1,718	2,043	2,045	2,157	2,485
C. Mayville	3,607	4,139	4,333	4,374	4,902
C. Watertown*	3,968	4,373	5,911	6,754	8,063
C. Waupun*	5,849	5,481	5,439	6,086	7,436
Dodge County	63,170	69,004	75,064	76,559	85,897
Wisconsin	3,951,777	4,417,731	4,705,642	4,891,769	5,363,675

*Municipality crosses county line, only includes portion in Dodge County.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration, 1960, 1970, and 1980. U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 and 2000. *Municipality crosses county line, only includes portion in Dodge County.

Table 1-2
Population Change, Dodge County, 1970-2000

	1970-1980		1980-1990		1990-2000	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
T. Ashippun	429	28.6%	-146	-7.6%	525	29.4%
T. Beaver Dam	1,097	56.8%	67	2.2%	343	11.1%
T. Burnett	42	4.8%	-2	-0.2%	4	0.4%
T. Calamus	143	15.3%	-68	-6.3%	-4	-0.4%
T. Chester	-79	-7.5%	-184	-18.8%	163	20.5%
T. Clyman	-74	-8.3%	-73	-9.0%	107	14.4%
T. Elba	68	7.1%	-64	-6.2%	122	12.7%
T. Emmet	39	3.7%	-75	-6.9%	207	20.4%
T. Fox Lake	173	11.5%	254	15.2%	474	24.6%
T. Herman	-84	-6.9%	-4	-0.4%	80	7.1%
T. Hubbard	207	15.9%	-118	-7.8%	253	18.2%
T. Hustisford	228	22.1%	-53	-4.2%	170	14.1%
T. Lebanon	240	18.8%	112	7.4%	34	2.1%
T. Leroy	-36	-3.1%	-85	-7.7%	91	8.9%
T. Lomira	144	11.5%	-111	-8.0%	-52	-4.1%
T. Lowell	-49	-3.9%	-71	-5.9%	35	3.1%
T. Oak Grove	7	0.5%	-133	-10.0%	-74	-6.2%
T. Portland	61	6.7%	18	1.8%	112	11.3%
T. Rubicon	195	12.5%	-50	-2.8%	296	17.3%
T. Shields	-18	-3.0%	-84	-14.4%	54	10.8%
T. Theresa	-22	-1.9%	-69	-6.0%	-3	-0.3%
T. Trenton	-87	-6.2%	-20	-1.5%	2	0.2%
T. Westford	197	19.6%	45	3.7%	152	12.2%
T. Williamstown	-2	-0.3%	35	5.3%	-46	-6.6%
V. Brownsville	59	15.8%	-18	-4.2%	155	37.3%
V. Clyman	-11	-3.4%	53	16.7%	18	4.9%
V. Hustisford	85	10.8%	105	12.0%	156	15.9%
V. Iron Ridge	286	59.6%	121	15.8%	111	12.5%
V. Kekoskee	-9	-3.9%	-6	-2.7%	-49	-22.5%
V. Lomira	362	33.4%	96	6.6%	691	44.8%
V. Lowell	4	1.2%	-14	-4.3%	54	17.3%
V. Neosho	175	43.8%	83	14.4%	-65	-9.9%
V. Randolph*	117	10.7%	21	1.7%	119	9.7%
V. Reeseville	83	14.7%	24	3.7%	30	4.5%
V. Theresa	155	25.4%	5	0.7%	481	62.4%
C. Beaver Dam	-116	-0.8%	47	0.3%	973	6.9%
C. Columbus*	0	0.0%	10	0.0%	26	260.0%
C. Fox Lake	131	10.5%	-94	-6.8%	175	13.7%
C. Hartford*	0	0.0%	9	0.0%	1	11.1%
C. Horicon	228	6.8%	289	8.1%	-98	-2.5%
C. Juneau	2	0.1%	112	5.5%	328	15.2%
C. Mayville	194	4.7%	41	0.9%	528	12.1%
C. Watertown*	1,538	35.2%	843	14.3%	1,309	19.4%
C. Waupun*	-42	-0.8%	647	11.9%	1,350	22.2%
Dodge County	6,060	8.8%	1,495	2.0%	9,338	12.2%
Wisconsin	287,911	6.5%	186,127	4.0%	471,906	9.6%

*Municipality crosses county line, only includes portion in Dodge County.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration, 1970 and 1980. U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 and 2000.

From 1960-2000, Burnett's population increased from 899 residents to 919. The rate of population growth varied during that time, declining 0.2 percent during the 1980s but increasing 0.4 percent during the 1990s. Surrounding towns, except for Beaver Dam, experienced similar growth patterns.

Population Estimates

Every year the Wisconsin Department of Administration (WDOA), Demographic Services Center develops population estimates for every municipality and county in the state. The 2003 population estimate for the Town of Burnett was 931 residents, an increase of 1.3 percent from 2000. The 2003 estimate for Dodge County was 87,599 residents, an increase of 1.98 percent from 2000. Population estimates from the Wisconsin Department of Administration should be utilized as the primary source for population information until the release of the 2010 Census.

Age Distribution

A shifting age structure can affect a variety of services and needs within the community. A shifting age structure is a national trend that is also prevalent in Wisconsin. The baby-boomer generation, which is the largest segment of the overall population, is nearing retirement age. As this age group gets older the demand for services such as health care will increase and a younger workforce will need to take the place of retirees. It will become increasingly important to recognize if these trends are taking place and to determine how to deal with the effects.

Table 1-3 displays the population by age cohort for the Town of Burnett and Dodge County.

Table 1-3
Population by Age Cohort, Town of Burnett and Dodge County, 2000

	Town of Burnett		Dodge County	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Under 5	61	7%	5,098	5.9%
5 to 14	143	16%	12,095	14.0%
15 to 24	104	11%	11,174	13.0%
25 to 34	104	11%	11,746	13.7%
35 to 44	161	18%	15,018	17.5%
45 to 54	146	16%	11,341	13.2%
55 to 64	94	10%	7,439	8.7%
65+	106	12%	11,986	14.0%
Total	919	101%	85,897	100.0%
Median Age	37.9		37.0	

*Percentages may not add up to 100%, due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

The largest percentage (18 percent) of the Town of Burnett residents is between the ages of 35 to 44, the next largest age cohort is ages 45 to 54. The largest percentage of Dodge County's residents is in the 35 to 44 age category, 17.5 percent. The Town of Burnett is similar since 18 percent of its residents are in the same age category. Also, 16 percent of the Town of Burnett's population is 5 to 14 years of age, which is higher than the County's percentage. The Town of Burnett's median age is 37.9, which is slightly older than Dodge County's median age of 37.

Educational Attainment

Approximately 49.1 percent of Burnett residents have attained a high school level education, higher than the 43.6 percent in Dodge County. The second largest percentage (15.2 percent) of education attainment in the Town of Burnett is some college, no degree. The Town of Burnett has 8.4 percent of its residents obtaining a bachelor's degree, which is lower than the Dodge County percentage of 9.5. The Town of Burnett had a lower percentage of residents with 12th grade or less and no diploma than the County. Table 1-4 indicates the education levels for the Town of Burnett and Dodge County.

Table 1-4
Educational Attainment, Town of Burnett and Dodge County, 2000

Attainment Level	T. Burnett		Dodge County	
	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total
Less than 9th grade	38	6.1%	4,025	7.0%
9th grade to 12th grade, no diploma	65	10.5%	6,128	10.7%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	304	49.1%	25,031	43.6%
Some college, no degree	94	15.2%	10,588	18.4%
Associate degree	50	8.1%	4,079	7.1%
Bachelor's degree	52	8.4%	5,476	9.5%
Graduate or professional degree	16	2.6%	2,126	3.7%
Total Persons 25 and over	619	100.0%	57,453	100.0%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000. Only includes persons age 25 and over.

Household Income

Table 1-5 displays the 1999 household income and median household income for the Town of Burnett and Dodge County as reported by the 2000 Census. The highest percentage (30.5 percent) of residents in the Town of Burnett had a household income between \$50,000 to \$74,000. The next largest percentage (18.3 percent) of household income was \$75,000 to \$99,999, which was much higher than the County's percentage of 10.5 percent of the same income level. Approximately 7.5 percent of the households in the Town of Burnett had a household income of \$100,000 or greater. This exceeded the County's 6.9 percent of households that made \$100,000 or more. The median household income for the Town of Burnett was \$55,000. The median income for Dodge County was \$45,190, slightly higher than the State's

reported median income of \$43,791. The Town of Burnett has a significantly lower percentage of households earning \$35,000 or less than the County.

Table 1-5
Household Income, Town of Burnett and Dodge County, 1999

	T. Burnett		Dodge County	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Less than \$10,000	24	7.2%	1,659	5.3%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	9	2.7%	1,627	5.2%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	30	9.0%	3,579	11.4%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	33	9.9%	4,434	14.1%
\$35,000 to 49,999	50	15.0%	6,420	20.4%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	102	30.5%	8,326	26.4%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	61	18.3%	3,305	10.5%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	20	6.0%	1,605	5.1%
\$150,000 or More	5	1.5%	558	1.8%
Total	334	100.1%	31,513	100.2%
Median Household Income	\$55,000		\$45,190	

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

*Percentages may not add up to 100%, due to rounding.

Population Projections

Population projections are based on past and current population trends and are not predictions, rather they extend past growth trends into the future and their reliability depends on the continuation of these past growth trends. Projections are therefore most accurate in periods of relative socio-economic and cultural stability. Projections should be considered as one of many tools used to help anticipate and predict change within the community.

Table 1-6 displays the population trends in the Town of Burnett and Dodge County from 1990 through 2003.

Table 1-6
Population Trends, Town of Burnett and Dodge County, 1990-2003

Year	Town of Burnett		Dodge County		Wisconsin	
	Population	% Change	Population	% Change	Population	% Change
1990	915	---	76,559	---	4,891,769	---
1991	917	.21	76,884	0.42	4,920,507	0.59
1992	921	.43	78,032	1.49	4,968,224	0.97
1993	923	.21	78,738	0.90	5,020,994	1.06
1994	920	(.32)	78,945	0.06	5,061,451	0.81
1995	930	1.08	79,915	1.23	5,101,581	0.79
1996	927	(.32)	80,839	1.16	5,142,999	0.81
1997	936	.97	82,147	1.62	5,192,298	0.96
1998	945	.96	83,348	1.46	5,234,350	0.81
1999	950	.52	84,312	1.16	5,274,827	0.77
2000	919	(3.26)	85,897	1.88	5,363,675	1.68
2001	923	.43	86,476	0.67	5,400,004	0.68
2002	923	0	87,083	0.70	5,453,896	0.99
2003	931	.86	87,599	0.59	5,490,000	0.66
Total Change	16	1.74	11,040	14.42	598,231	12.23

Source: Official Population Estimates, Demographic Services Center, Wisconsin Department of Administration

In the years 1990 and 2000 the Town of Burnett's population was verified by a census, the other years listed are estimates by the Wisconsin Department of Administration. In 2000, the Town's population was lower than the estimated increases of the other years. Overall, the Town of Burnett has typically had an increase in its population from 1990 to 2003. Compared to the County, the Town has had a noticeably lower percent change in its population.

Wisconsin Department of Administration, Population Projections

In 2002 the Wisconsin Department of Administration (WDOA) Demographic Services Center prepared baseline population projections to the year 2025 for the communities and counties of Wisconsin. The WDOA utilized a projection formula that calculates the annual population change over three varying time spans. From this formula, the average annual numerical population change is calculated, which was used to give communities preliminary population projections for a future date. Table 1-7 shows the WDOA population projection for the Town of Burnett.

Table 1-7
WDOA Population Projections, Town of Burnett, 2000-2025

2000 Population	2010	2015	2020	2025	% Change 2000-2020	Total New Persons 2000-2020
919	910	906	900	894	-2.7	-25

The Town of Burnett is estimated to have a 2.7 percent decrease in population from 2000 to 2025. According to the WDOA Population Projection, the Town of Burnett will have a population of 894 by 2025. The WDOA projection shows the Town will lose 25 persons by 2025.

Census/Population Estimate Projections

Projections were created by using the population estimates of 1990 to 2000 census population data along with the 2003 population estimate and increasing or decreasing population counts by the annual percentage rate of increase or decrease. Therefore, projections are based directly on historical population trends. Table 1-8 displays the resulting projections from the 2000 population estimate to the 2030 projection.

Table 1-8
Census/Population Estimate Projections, Town of Burnett, 2000-2030

2000 Population	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	% Change 2000-2030	Total New Persons 2000-2030
919	939	945	951	957	963	4.8	44

Source: Foth & Van Dyke and Dodge County Planning and Development Staff

The Foth & Van Dyke and Dodge County Planning and Development Staff used the Town of Burnett's yearly growth percentages from 1990 to 2003 to determine the Town's future population. The Town of Burnett had an estimated 0.12 percent annual increase from 1990 to 2003. According to the average yearly growth rate, the Town of Burnett will have 963 residents by 2030. The projection shows the Town will add 44 persons by 2030.

Alternate Population Projections

The Alternate Population Projection was produced by Foth & Van Dyke and Dodge County Planning and Development Staff to give County and local officials another population projection model. The Alternate Population Projection utilizes current average household size (2.78) and the building permit data from 1994 to 2003 (average of three new homes per year) to create a new population projection model. The average household size in 2000 was multiplied by the average number of new housing units built annually to produce the alternate population projection. The projection assumption includes all new housing units produce new residents to the Town. Table 1-9 displays the Alternate Population Projections for the Town of Burnett.

Table 1-9
Alternate Population Projections, Town of Burnett, 2000-2030

2000 Population	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	% Change 2000-2030	Total New Persons 2000-2030
917	1,002	1,042	1,083	1,125	1,167	27.3	250

Source: Foth & Van Dyke and Dodge County Planning and Development Staff

The Alternate Population Projection shows the Town of Burnett having a 27.3 percent increase in population between 2000 and 2030. According to the Alternate Population projection, the Town of Burnett will have 1,167 residents in 2030, an increase of 250 residents from 2000.

1.5 Housing Characteristics

Table 1-10 displays the number of housing units found in the Town of Burnett and Dodge County for 1990 and 2000. The table also includes the number of occupied and vacant homes.

The U.S. Census Bureau classifies housing units as a house, apartment, mobile home or trailer, a group of rooms, or a single room occupied as separate living quarters, or if vacant, intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live separately from any other individuals in the building and which have direct access from outside the building or through a common hall.

Table 1-10
Housing Supply, Occupancy and Tenure, Town of Burnett and Dodge
County, 1990-2000

T. Burnett						
	1990	Percent of Total	2000	Percent of Total	# Change 1990-00	% Change 1990-00
Total housing units	333	100.0%	353	100.0%	20	6.0%
Occupied housing units	326	97.9%	330	93.5%	4	1.2%
Owner-occupied	260	78.1%	285	80.7%	25	9.6%
Renter-occupied	66	19.8%	45	12.7%	-21	-31.8%
Vacant housing units	7	2.1%	23	6.5%	16	228.6%
Seasonal units	0	0.0%	2	0.6%	2	0.0%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

Dodge County						
	1990	Percent of Total	2000	Percent of Total	# Change 1990-00	% Change 1990-00
Total housing units	28,720	100.0%	33,672	100.0%	4,952	17.2%
Occupied housing units	26,853	93.5%	31,417	93.3%	4,564	17.0%
Owner-occupied	19,632	68.4%	23,067	68.5%	3,435	17.5%
Renter-occupied	7,221	25.1%	8,350	24.8%	1,129	15.6%
Vacant housing units	1,867	6.5%	2,255	6.7%	388	20.8%
Seasonal units	950	3.3%	815	2.4%	-135	-14.2%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

In 2000, the Town of Burnett had 353 housing units, a 6 percent increase from 1990. In 2000, approximately 93.5 percent of the community's housing units were occupied. Of this figure, approximately 80.7 percent were occupied by owners and 12.7 percent were occupied by individuals renting the housing unit. Vacant units accounted for 6.5 percent of the total housing supply. Only .6 percent of the housing units within the community were for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use.

Table 1-11 displays the average household size found in the Town of Burnett and Dodge County for 1990 and 2000.

Table 1-11
Average Household Size, Town of Burnett
and Dodge County, 1990 and 2000

	1990	2000
Town of Burnett	2.81	2.78
Dodge County	2.71	2.56

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990-2000.

The size of households have decreased from years ago, families are having fewer children than the large traditional families. The Town of Burnett average household size has decreased by approximately .03 persons since 1990. The County's average household size has decreased at a much faster rate than that of the Town. In 2000, the Town of Burnett had a higher average household size than the County's 2.56 persons and the State of Wisconsin's 2.50 persons.

Housing Unit Projections

Housing unit projections are an important element in preparing the comprehensive plan for the community. Specifically, they are used as a guide to estimate required acreage to accommodate future residential development, as well as prepare for future demands growth may have on public facilities and services throughout the planning period. Similar to population projections, it is

important to note that housing projections are based on past and current trends, and therefore should only be used as a guide for planning.

Please refer to Table 2-5 for the linear housing unit projection and Table 2-6 for the alternate housing unit projection utilizing building permit data.

1.6 Employment Characteristics

Employment by industry within an area illustrates the structure of the economy. Historically, Dodge County has had a high concentration of employment in the manufacturing and agricultural sectors of the economy. Recent state and national trends indicate a decreasing concentration of employment in the manufacturing sector while employment within the services sector is increasing. This trend is partly attributed to the aging of the population.

Table 1-12 displays the number and percent of employed persons by industry group in the Town of Burnett and Dodge County for 2000.

The manufacturing sector supplied the most jobs (35.8 percent) and retail trade sector provided the second most jobs (15.4 percent) in the Town of Burnett. The greatest percentage of employment for the County was also in the manufacturing sector (33.2 percent), followed by the educational, health, and social services (16.0 percent). The agricultural, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining sector provided 5.0 percent of the employment by industry in the County. However, in the Town of Burnett the agricultural, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining sector claimed 11.2 percent, more than double the County's percentage.

Table 1-12
Employment by Industrial Sector, Town of Burnett and Dodge
County, 2000

Industry	T. Burnett		Dodge County	
	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	58	11.2%	2,148	5.0%
Construction	30	5.8%	2,840	6.6%
Manufacturing	186	35.8%	14,359	33.2%
Wholesale trade	8	1.5%	1,142	2.6%
Retail trade	80	15.4%	4,668	10.8%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	16	3.1%	1,584	3.7%
Information	5	1.0%	792	1.8%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	6	1.2%	1,523	3.5%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	20	3.9%	1,691	3.9%
Educational, health, and social services	71	13.7%	6,929	16.0%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, Accommodation, and food services	16	3.1%	2,235	5.2%
Other services (except public administration)	2	0.4%	1,555	3.6%
Public administration	21	4.0%	1,731	4.0%
Total	519	100.0%	43,197	100.0%

*Percentages may not add up to 100%, due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

1.7 Issues and Opportunities Trends

Population Trends and Outlook

Identified below are some of the population and demographic trends that can be anticipated over the next 30 years in the Town of Burnett:

- ♦ Burnett's population is projected to rise according to the linear (4.8%) and alternative (27%) population projections. The WDOA population projection expects the population to decrease in the Town of Burnett by 2.7% over the next 20 years. The alternative population projection, based on building permits, is most likely high and growth will be closer to the linear trend projection.
- ♦ School attainment percentages will gradually change, with more of the population attaining education beyond high school.
- ♦ Household income will slowly rise.
- ♦ The number of births will continue to support the rise in population, and deaths will rise due to the aging baby boomers generation.

- ♦ The 65-plus population will increase slowly up to 2010, and then grow dramatically as the baby boomers join the ranks of the elderly.
- ♦ The Town's population will continue to age and have resulting effects on local service demands and housing needs.

2 Housing



2. Housing

2.1 Introduction

This section contains an inventory of housing characteristics in the Town of Burnett. It is intended that this inventory will help identify deficiencies and opportunities relative to meeting the community's housing needs.

2.2 Housing Characteristics

Housing Supply

The U.S. Census Bureau classifies housing units as a house, apartment, mobile home or trailer, a group of rooms, or a single room occupied as separate living quarters, or if vacant, intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live separately from any other individuals in the building and which have direct access from outside the building or through a common hall.

In 2000, the Town of Burnett had 353 housing units, a 6 percent increase from 1990. In 2000, approximately 93.5 percent of the community's housing units were occupied. Of this figure, approximately 80.7 percent were occupied by owners and 12.7 percent were occupied by individuals renting the housing unit. Vacant units accounted for 6.5 percent of the total housing supply. Only .6 percent of the housing units within the community were for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use.

Table 2-1 displays the number of housing units found in the Town of Burnett and Dodge County for 1990 and 2000. The table also includes the number of occupied and vacant homes.

Table 2-1
Housing Supply, Occupancy and Tenure, Town of Burnett
and Dodge County, 1990-2000

T. Burnett						
	1990	Percent of Total	2000	Percent of Total	# Change 1990-00	% Change 1990-00
Total housing units	333	100.0%	353	100.0%	20	6.0%
Occupied housing units	326	97.9%	330	93.5%	4	1.2%
Owner-occupied	260	78.1%	285	80.7%	25	9.6%
Renter-occupied	66	19.8%	45	12.7%	-21	-31.8%
Vacant housing units	7	2.1%	23	6.5%	16	228.6%
Seasonal units	0	0.0%	2	0.6%	2	0.0%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

Dodge County

	1990	Percent of Total	2000	Percent of Total	# Change 1990-00	% Change 1990-00
Total housing units	28,720	100.0%	33,672	100.0%	4,952	17.2%
Occupied housing units	26,853	93.5%	31,417	93.3%	4,564	17.0%
Owner-occupied	19,632	68.4%	23,067	68.5%	3,435	17.5%
Renter-occupied	7,221	25.1%	8,350	24.8%	1,129	15.6%
Vacant housing units	1,867	6.5%	2,255	6.7%	388	20.8%
Seasonal units	950	3.3%	815	2.4%	-135	-14.2%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

*Percentages may not add up to 100%, due to rounding.

Units in Structure

Table 2-2 displays the number of units within structure for the Town of Burnett and Dodge County for 2000. Detached housing units are defined as one-unit structures detached from any other house, with open space on four sides. Structures are considered detached even if they have an attached garage or contain a business unit.

Table 2-2
Units in Structure, Town of Burnett and Dodge County, 2000

	Town of Burnett		Dodge County	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
1-unit detached	313	88%	23,983	71.2%
1-unit attached	2	1%	676	2.0%
2 units	11	3%	2,598	7.7%
3 or 4 units	0	0%	930	2.8%
5 to 9 units	3	1%	1,539	4.6%
10 to 19 units	15	4%	1,245	3.7%
20 to 49 units	0	0%	598	1.8%
50 or more units	3	1%	504	1.5%
Mobile home	9	3%	1,567	4.7%
Boat, RV, van, etc.	0	0%	32	0.1%
Total	356	101%	33,672	100.1%

*Percentages may not add up to 100%, due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

The predominant housing structure in both the Town of Burnett and Dodge County is the one-unit detached structure, making up 88 percent and 71.2 percent of all housing structures, respectively. In the Town of Burnett, 10 to 19 unit structures come in a distant second, comprising four percent of the housing structures.

Age of Housing Units

An examination of the age of the community's housing stock will provide an indication of its overall condition. The age of the housing stock is an important element to be analyzed when planning for a future housing supply. If there is a significant amount of older housing units within the housing supply they will most likely need to be replaced, rehabilitated, or abandoned for new development within the planning period. Allowing for a newer housing supply also requires planning regarding infrastructure, land availability, community utilities, transportation routes, and a variety of other things which are affected by new housing development.

Table 2-3 details the year that structures were built in the Town of Burnett and Dodge County according to the 2000 Census.

Table 2-3
Year Structures Built, Town of Burnett
and Dodge County, 2000

	Town of Burnett		Dodge County	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Built 1995 to March 2000	20	5.6%	3,587	10.7%
Built 1990 to 1994	16	4.5%	2,289	6.8%
Built 1980 to 1989	19	5.3%	2,707	8.0%
Built 1970 to 1979	69	19.4%	5,023	14.9%
Built 1960 to 1969	21	5.9%	3,129	9.3%
Built 1950 to 1959	15	4.2%	3,123	9.3%
Built 1940 to 1949	10	2.8%	2,126	6.3%
Built 1939 or earlier	186	52.2%	11,688	34.7%
Total	356	99.9%	33,672	100.0%
Median year	1940		1960	

*Percentages may not add up to 100%, due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

Taking into account the area's settlement history, it is not surprising that the greatest percentage of both Burnett's and Dodge County's existing housing units were built prior to 1940. Both the Town and the County experienced building spurts during the 1970s when roughly 19.4 percent of current housing stock was erected. More recently, Burnett added 5.6 of its current housing stock during the period 1995-2000; Dodge County added 10.7 percent from 1995-2000. The median year of structures built is 1940 for Burnett, 1960 for Dodge County.

Housing Value

Housing costs are typically the single largest expenditure for individuals. It is therefore assumed that a home is the single most valuable asset for homeowners. While many people in Wisconsin

enjoy a good housing situation, many are struggling. According to the State of Wisconsin's *2000 Consolidated Plan: For the State's Housing and Community Development Needs*, households in the low-income range have great difficulty finding adequate housing within their means that can accommodate their needs. A lack of affordable housing not only affects these individuals, but also has effects on population and migration patterns, economic development, and the local tax base.

Table 2-4 provides housing values of specified owner-occupied units for 2000. A housing unit is owner-occupied if the owner or co-owner lives in the unit even if it is mortgaged or not fully paid for. The U.S. Bureau of the Census determines value by the respondents estimate of how much the property (house and lot, mobile home and lot, or condominium unit) would sell for if it were for sale.

Table 2-4
Housing Value for Specified Owner-Occupied Units,
Town of Burnett and Dodge County, 2000

	Town of Burnett		Dodge County	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Less than \$49,999	8	3.9%	519	2.9%
\$50,000 to \$69,999	33	16.2%	1,528	8.6%
\$70,000 to \$89,999	29	14.2%	3,760	21.2%
\$90,000 to \$99,999	20	9.8%	2,250	12.7%
\$100,000 to \$124,999	32	15.7%	3,566	20.1%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	32	15.7%	2,664	15.0%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	37	18.1%	2,308	13.0%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	8	3.9%	988	5.6%
\$300,000 or more	5	2.5%	174	0.9%
Total	204	100.0%	17,757	100.1%
Median value	\$109,400		\$105,800	

*Percentages may not add up to 100%, due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

The Town of Burnett had a large percentage (18.1 percent) of homes valued between \$150,000 and \$199,999. Whereas Dodge County had the largest percentage (21.2 percent) of its homes valued between \$70,000 and \$89,999. The median value of homes in the Town of Burnett is comparable to that of Dodge County. The Town should be able to attract affordable housing since its median housing value is similar to Dodge County's.

2.3 Housing Unit Projections

Housing unit projections are an important element in preparing the comprehensive plan for the community. Specifically, they are used as a guide to estimate required acreage to accommodate future residential development, as well as prepare for future demands growth may have on public facilities and services throughout the planning period. Similar to population projections, it is important to note that housing projections are based on past and current trends, and therefore should only be used as a guide for planning.

Linear Housing Unit Projection

Linear projections were created by using the 1990 and 2000 Census, and increasing and decreasing housing unit counts by a constant value that is based on the selected Census counts. Table 2-5 displays the resulting linear projections from the 2000 Census count to the estimated 2030 projection.

Table 2-5
Linear Housing Unit Projections, Town of Burnett, 2000-2030

2000 Housing Units	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	% Change 2000-2030	Total New Units 2000-2030
353	373	383	393	403	413	17.0	60

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 and 2000. Linear projections completed by Foth & Van Dyke.

The Town of Burnett is estimated to have a 17 percent increase in housing units from 2000 to 2030. According to the Linear Housing Unit Projection, the Town of Burnett will have 413 housing units by 2030, 60 new units.

Alternate Housing Unit Projections

The Alternate Housing Unit Projections were created by obtaining land use permit information from 1994 to 2003 for Burnett. This information was then used to calculate the total number of new housing units built annually over that time period. A five year average growth rate was then determined and used to project the number of new housing units gained for each five year period from 2010 to 2030. If Burnett continues to grow the way it has in the previous 10 years (three new homes per year), this projection shows the number of housing units by 2030. Table 2-6 displays the Alternate Housing Unit Projections for the Town of Burnett.

Table 2-6
Alternate Housing Unit Projections,
Town of Burnett, 2000-2030

2000 Housing Units	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	% Change 2000-2030	Total New Units 2000-2030
353	383	398	413	428	443	25.5	90

Completed by Foth & Van Dyke and Dodge County Planning and Development office.

The Alternate Housing Unit Projection shows the Town of Burnett with an additional 90 housing units in 2030. The Alternate Housing Unit Projection projects a 25.5 percent increase in housing units, which is 8.5 percent higher than the Linear Housing Projection of 17 percent.

2.4 Housing Trends

There were a number of changes in the State of Wisconsin, Dodge County, and the Town of Burnett with regard to housing from 1990 to 2000. Housing trends that need to be considered as part of the planning process are identified below:

- ◆ Increased pressure to convert farmland to residential and recreational uses;
- ◆ Increased need to remodel and rehabilitate the older housing stock in the Town;
- ◆ Past trends indicate an increased demand to build housing in rural areas outside of the unincorporated village;
- ◆ Demographic trends and an aging population will increase the need for more choices relative to elderly housing, rental units, and starter homes;
- ◆ Highway improvements will make commuting easier and increase rural development pressures.
- ◆ The need to utilize the public investments in the Town's sanitary sewer system will drive development decisions and the associated location of new residential and commercial development in the Town.
- ◆ Housing Unit growth projections indicate the Town of Burnett will experience between 17% and 27% growth over the planning period.

3 Transportation



3. Transportation

3.1 Introduction

The transportation system which serves the Town of Burnett provides for the transport of goods and people into, out of, and within the Town. The transportation system contains multiple modes involving air, land, and water transport. Many elements of the system are not located in the Town itself, however the Town's proximity to these elements is an important consideration in evaluating and planning for the Town's transportation system.

3.2 Transportation Programs

PASER Program

The PASER (Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating) Program is a system for communities to evaluate and schedule road maintenance on Town roads. The program requires Town officials to evaluate the condition of Town roads based on observing characteristics of the road such as the texture of the road surface or the spacing of cracks. The officials then assign a rating on a scale of 1 to 10. These ratings, along with information on traffic volumes, are used to schedule the maintenance and reconstruction of Town roads. The Town does utilize the PASER program, refer to Section 3.8 for further information.

Dodge County Capital Improvement Program

Dodge County annually updates a Capital Improvement Program. The program prioritizes the allocation of financial resources for various projects over a five year time frame. In terms of the Town of Burnett, four transportation projects are scheduled to receive funding under the program. These projects include the resurfacing of CTH I from STH 33 to CTH B in 2003, the reconstruction of CTH CI in 2004, the reconstruction of CTH BI in 2005, and the resurfacing of CTH I from CTH B to STH 26 in 2006.

Town of Burnett Land Divisions

The Town of Burnett's land divisions are administered by Dodge County Planning and Development. The Dodge County Land Use Code regulates the division of land within the Town. It also provides standards for the construction of new roads such as street width and grade requirements. Under the County's Land Use Code, streets/roads within Burnett are classified into three separate categories; Arterial Streets, Collector Streets, and Minor Streets. Paved roads, except cul-de-sacs, are required to have a width of 24 feet. Additionally, four feet of shoulder area is mandatory on both sides of the road, unless curb and gutter are required. Additional road construction standards are included within the Dodge County Land Use Code.

3.3 State and Regional Transportation Plans

State and regional transportation plans that affect the Town of Burnett are the responsibility of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. The DOT has capital improvement plans for each county in the state. STH 26 is the only state highway in the Town of Burnett. The 2002-2007

Highway Improvement Program did not list the section of STH 26 in the Town of Burnett as a roadway to receive improvements.

However, it should be noted that the Dodge County Comprehensive Plan calls for the construction of a new roadway through sections 8 and 17 of the Town (as shown on map 8-2, Future Land Use). The proposed roadway would be apart of CTH I, and would bypass the current intersection of CTH I and Walnut Road. This road proposal would reduce the curve in the road, as well as eliminating the direct intersection with Walnut Road.

Dodge County is not served by a Regional Planning Commission, therefore there are no applicable regional transportation plans.

3.4 Functional Classification of Highways

Vehicular travel on the public highway system is the transportation mode for the vast majority of trips by Town of Burnett residents. Road and highway transportation systems primarily serve two basic functions, to provide access to adjacent properties and to provide for the movement of vehicular traffic. Roads and highways are grouped into three functional classes (local, collector, and arterial streets) which are described below. Map 3-1, Appendix A shows the existing transportation conditions and functional classification for the Town of Burnett.

Local Roads

Local roads primarily provide access to adjacent properties and only secondarily provide for the movement of vehicular traffic. Since access is their primary function, through traffic should be discouraged. Traffic volume is expected to be light and should not interfere with the access function of these streets. Fir Road and Swan Road are examples of local roads in the Town of Burnett.

Collector Roads

Collector roads and highways carry vehicular traffic into and out of residential neighborhoods and commercial and industrial areas. These streets gather traffic from the local streets and funnel it to arterial streets. Access to adjacent properties is a secondary function of collector streets. Collector streets are further divided into major or minor collectors depending on the amount of traffic they carry. CTH E is an example of a major collector highway in the Town and CTH B is an example of a minor collector highway.

Arterial Highways

Arterial highways serve primarily to move through traffic. Traffic volumes are generally heavy and traffic speeds are generally high. Arterial highways are further divided into principal or minor arterials depending on the traffic volume and the amount of access provided. STH 26 is an example of a principal arterial roadway.

3.5 Traffic Volumes

Traffic volume is also an important consideration for land use planning. The volume of traffic on a particular roadway and the associated noise, fumes, safety level, and other such concerns are considerations that need to be addressed in deciding how land should be used. Map 3-2, Average Annual Daily Traffic, Appendix A shows the average daily traffic volume of major traffic corridors within the Town.

Traffic volumes vary considerably on the different roadways within the Town. CTH E, being the major east – west thoroughfare in the Town, carries the largest volume of traffic in the Town east of STH 26 (4,300 vehicles per day). The average daily traffic volume on CTH E increases by 700 vehicles east of its intersection with STH 26. STH 26 also carries considerable traffic with an estimated 3,300 vehicles per day. The volume of traffic on a particular roadway can be significantly influenced by its intersection with other roadways, and the existing (or proposed) development pattern.

3.6 Traffic Safety

Traffic safety at particular intersections can be a concern within the Town of Burnett. No particular intersection was listed on the Dodge County Accident Listings; however a total of 224 accidents occurred within the Town between January 1997 and December of 2002. Over that six year period, there was an average of 37.3 automobile accidents per year. The Town may wish to address these issues through contacting County highway officials about improving safety at intersections and increasing the level of speed limit enforcement.

Traffic safety and efficiency in the Town can also be improved by discouraging the creation of new parcels that require access to County Trunk Highways or Town roads where sight distance is limited. This practice restricts the access points to these roadways, thereby reducing accident potential and the need to reduce speed limits to improve safety. New parcels should be encouraged only where access can be provided by an existing Town road or where a new Town road will be constructed by the subdivider.

Safety concerns on heavily traveled highways in the Town can also be addressed by examining the role the particular highway plays in the transportation network of the County.

3.7 Town Road and County Highway Standards

Subsection 7.6.3 of the Dodge County Land Use Code shows the street design standards for roadways in the County and Burnett. The design standards vary among roadways, as different roads serve different functions within the transportation system. These standards are outlined in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1
Dodge County Minimum Street Design Standards

Street Type	Right-of-Way Minimum Width	Minimum Pavement Width
Arterial or Highway	120 feet	Dual 24 feet, two 5-foot outside shoulders, 4-foot inside shoulders (20-foot median)
Collector	80 feet	24 feet, two 5-foot outside shoulders
Minor (local)	70 feet	24 feet, two 4-foot outside shoulders

The minimum street design standards, outlined in Table 3-2 below, are those set forth by Wisconsin State Statute 86.26 (1).

Table 3-2
State of Wisconsin Minimum Street Design Standards

Street Type	Right-of-Way Minimum Width	Minimum Pavement Width
Arterial or Highway	66 feet	24 feet, two 5-foot outside shoulders
Collector	66 feet	22 feet, two 4-foot outside shoulders
Minor (local)	49.5 feet	16 feet, two 4-foot outside shoulders

3.8 Town Road and County Highway Deficiencies

On September 24, 2003 the Town of Burnett used the PASER program to evaluate which roads are in need of repairs in the Town. The roadways in the Town were given a number between 1 to 10, with 1 needing the most repairs and 10 being a new road. Each number rating has specific criteria the road must meet to be assigned that rating. Roads with a rating of 1 to 4 are in need of major repairs and reconstruction, compared to roads rated 5 or higher. Below is a list of roads in the Town that qualify for ratings 1 through 4.

Roads assigned a rating of 1 are roads in that have failed and have severe loss of surface integrity. There are no road sections that have been assigned a rating of 1 in the Town of Burnett:

Deteriorated roads that are in need of being reconstructed are assigned a rating of 2. There are no road sections that have been assigned a rating of 2 in the Town of Burnett:

Roads that are rated as a 3 will need to structural improvements. The following are roads with segments that are rated a 3 in the Town of Burnett:

- ♦ Beyer Road
- ♦ Dogwood Road
- ♦ Hazelhurst Road
- ♦ Main Street (west of STH 26)
- ♦ Main Street (east of STH 26)

- ♦ Mallard Road
- ♦ Marohl Road
- ♦ Redwood Road
- ♦ Tower Road
- ♦ Superior Street
- ♦ TN Road 36
- ♦ Tower Road

Roads that receive the rating of 4 are showing signs of needing strengthening. The following is a list of roads, with segments that have a rating of 4:

- ♦ Breezy Point Road
- ♦ Burnett Ditch Road
- ♦ Depot Street
- ♦ Fernwood Road
- ♦ Fir Road
- ♦ Island Road
- ♦ Park Drive
- ♦ Prospect Road
- ♦ Prospect Road
- ♦ Prospect Road
- ♦ Seering Road
- ♦ Walnut Road
- ♦ Walnut Road

Substandard Roadways

Town road and County highway standards are designed to require that roadways be constructed to minimum standards that will provide adequate levels of service based on current transportation needs. The level of service needed on a particular type of road is based on the amount of traffic the road carries as well as other issues. However, many of the existing Town roads and County highways were developed at an earlier time when the levels of service requirements were not as great as today. As a result many roadways within the Town have some form of deficiency when compared to the State of Wisconsin's minimum street design standards.

One standard that is used to identify deficiencies is right-of-way width. The Wisconsin State Statutes list minimum right-of-way widths of 49.5 feet for local roads, and 66 feet for collector roads. Where it is practical, acquisition of additional right-of-way should be done. It should be noted that it may not always be practical or desirable to attempt to widen the right-of-way of some of the substandard roadways within the Town. All new roads and highways should be required to meet current right-of-way width standards before they are accepted by the Town.

Another standard that can be easily used to identify deficiencies in roadways is pavement width. The Wisconsin State Statutes establish minimum pavement widths of 16 feet for local roads, and 22 feet for collector roads. Where it is practical, road pavement should be widened to the required standard as they are reconstructed. However, it may not be practical or desirable to widen the pavement on all of the roadways. Likewise, the damage done to existing developed

areas by widening the pavement would destroy the character of the area. Furthermore, all new Town roads and County highways should be required to meet the current minimum pavement width before they are accepted by the Town.

Shoulder width is a third standard used for identifying roadway deficiencies. The Wisconsin State Statutes list minimum shoulder widths of two 4-foot outside shoulders for local roads and collector roads. Road shoulders should be widened to the required standard as it is reconstructed when it is a practical option. However, it may not be practical or desirable to widen the shoulder area on all of the roadways. Likewise, the damage done to existing developed areas by widening the shoulders of the existing road would destroy the character of the area. It should be required that all new Town roads and County highways meet the current minimum shoulder width before they are accepted by the Town.

3.9 The Transportation System

The transportation system which serves the Town of Burnett provides for the transport of goods and people into, out of, and within the Town. While the Town has little direct influence on transportation links outside its boundaries, it may be in its best interest to influence the improvement of these links to better serve the residents of the Town of Burnett. The transportation system operates in the air and on land and water. Land based transport includes pedestrian, bicycles, and rail as well as highway.

Seaports

Waterborne transport of goods is efficient, but the waterway systems in the Town of Burnett are not suitable for commercial transportation. The nearest international seaport is the Port of Milwaukee, approximately 60 miles from the Town of Burnett.

Airports

Air transportation for both goods and people is very fast. Its use is substantial and increasing. Convenient access to at least a general airport is critical to many businesses. The nearest general airport is the Juneau Airport, located about three miles from the Town of Burnett. Dane County Regional Airport in Madison provides commercial aviation services. It is approximately 35 miles southwest of the Town of Burnett. General Mitchell Field in Milwaukee also offers commercial airline service, but is also an international airport. It is located about 60 miles southeast of the Town.

Railroads

The Wisconsin & Southern Railroad Company crosses the Town of Burnett in a north-southeast direction between Milwaukee and Minneapolis metropolitan areas. Rail transportation is an efficient and inexpensive method of transporting goods long distances. Many manufacturers favor railroad access to utilize efficiencies in plant operations. However, a trend with rail operations is a retraction of service areas. A prime example is the Wild Goose Trail, which used to be a rail corridor that was transferred to state ownership when the rail line was discontinued. Map 3-1, Appendix A shows the location of the railroad in the Town of Burnett.

There is one rail siding in the Town of Burnett in the unincorporated Village of Burnett. A number of at-grade railroad crossings interrupt traffic on roads and highways in the Town. The most important of these is the crossing at STH 26 in the unincorporated Village of Burnett. A grade separation at this location is not feasible at this point, but the crossing is well marked.

Trucking

Trucking on the highway system is the preferred method of transporting freight, particularly for short hauls. Several trucking companies are located in the area.

Public Transit

The nearest bus services are provided by Greyhound in Columbus and Waupun. The nearest private taxi service exists in the City of Beaver Dam. However, this service is not very cost effective for Town residents.

Bicycles

With the presence of the Wild Goose Trail, bicycling in the Town is quite prevalent. However, local bicycle traffic, the Wild Goose Trail withstanding, is limited. Shoulder areas on Town roads are usually narrow and unpaved making bicycle travel difficult. County highways in the Town tend to have wider shoulders, but traffic levels on these roads make bicycle traffic unsafe or undesirable. The Wild Goose State Trail runs down the middle of the Town and is the only bicycle transportation facility in Dodge County. The Town of Burnett could also designate bike routes throughout the Town on lightly traveled roads. Once designated, shoulder areas on these roads could be widened as the roads are periodically reconstructed.

The Dodge County Bike and Pedestrian Plan was designed to promote and improve conditions for bicycling and walking throughout Dodge County. The intention of the Bike and Pedestrian Plan is to increase transportation safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. Infrastructure improvements such as designated bikeways, bike lanes, paved shoulders, improved crosswalks, and traffic and informational signs are among the type of facilities being recommended to improve conditions for bicyclists, walkers, and motorists alike.

In the Town of Burnett, the Dodge County Bike and Pedestrian Plan identifies CTH E, Prospect Road, Swan Road as bicycle routes to receive bicycle route improvements.

Pedestrian Transportation

The Wild Goose Trail is the only pedestrian facility in the Town. The rural, sparse development pattern in the Town typically precludes the development of an effective pedestrian transportation system. However, the Dodge County Bike and Pedestrian Plan does suggest pedestrian friendly design standards for creating a walkable Dodge County.

Transportation for the Disabled

The Dodge County Human Services Department provides transportation for the disabled in the Town of Burnett. This department has volunteer drivers who use their own cars, as well as county employed drivers in county owned wheelchair accessible vans that provide transportation to the disabled. These drivers also provide transportation to people who are unable to drive due to a medical condition, are in nursing homes, or receive W-2. In addition, private taxi services in the City of Beaver Dam provide service to disabled residents of the Town. However, the disabled are unlikely to use this service due to its high cost outside the city limits.

3.10 Transportation Trends

The future transportation system will be affected by a number of factors including demographics, the economy, and overall development patterns. The following are anticipated trends that can affect the transportation system in the Town of Burnett over the planning period:

- ◆ Reduced funding for transportation projects is anticipated due to county, state, and federal budget constraints.
- ◆ Lower density development in rural areas will lead to increased costs of maintaining and developing transportation facilities.
- ◆ As vehicle ownership continues to increase and trips become longer, congestion on major roadways is anticipated to increase.
- ◆ The demand for para-transit services will increase as the population ages and the baby-boomers move into older age groups.
- ◆ There will be continued demand for quality trucking routes as manufacturing continues to be a major sector of the economy.
- ◆ Routes between cities and villages are likely to continue to grow in traffic volume, such as CTH E.
- ◆ Concerns raised by local residents are likely to center on controlling traffic speeds and intersection safety.
- ◆ Major highway intersections will continue to be target locations for new commercial and industrial development.
- ◆ New driveways onto town and county roads will continue to increase.
- ◆ Conflicts between automobiles and slower farm equipment are likely to increase.
- ◆ Interest in designating local roads for ATV and snowmobile use is likely to increase.
- ◆ New trail development, shared roadways, or improved shoulders (if any) will be coordinated with new development or roadway reconstruction projects.

- ♦ User demands for park and recreation facilities will increase.
- ♦ Demands for use of public land and recreation facilities will outpace supply

4 Utilities and Community Facilities



4. Utilities and Community Facilities

4.1 Introduction

This element contains information about existing utilities and community facilities in the Town of Burnett. Facilities discussed in this element include administrative facilities, public buildings, police, fire, and emergency medical services, schools, quasi public facilities, parks, solid waste and recycling, communication and power facilities, sanitary sewer, water, stormwater management, and health and day care facilities. There are several maps that correspond to this element in Appendix A. Maps 4-1 through 4-8 display specific issues, where as Map 4-9, Utilities and Community Facilities, displays several data sets.

4.2 Administrative Facilities and Services

The Town of Burnett Town Hall and administrative facilities are located at W 6246 Main St. Town employees include one part-time position for lawn mowing at Stone cemetery, three part-time snow plowing and road side mowing employees, one part-time employee at the recycling drop-off site, and one part-time position for general cleaning of the town hall. The Town maintains a web-site with information on the local government and services at: www.townofburnett.com.

Committees, Commissions, and Boards

- Plan Commission
- Board of Appeals
- Sanitary Commission

Public Buildings

Town buildings include the town hall, fire department building and garages, a storage shed, concession stands in park, and the recycling center.

The town hall is available for rental by residents for various social events and activities.

4.3 Protective Services

Police Services

Dodge County Sheriff

The Dodge County Sheriff's Department serves as the primary law enforcement agency to many communities in the county and also operates the County Jail in Juneau. There are several major divisions of the department including the administration division, criminal investigation division, jail division, radio communications division, snowmobile patrol, and traffic division.

The Sheriff's Department provides 24-hour service to all communities in the county that do not have their own police department. The Sheriff also provides service to communities that do have their own department when requested. The radio communications division dispatches all squads and police personnel within the county with the exception of the City of Waupun, City of Watertown, and the City of Beaver Dam, who have their own full time personnel. In the absence of a dispatcher in the remaining communities, this division would provide the police dispatching services. In addition to the police dispatching, this division also dispatches emergency medical services and fire departments.

Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

The Burnett Volunteer Fire Department was organized January 9, 1915. The fire station is part of the town hall. The Department has 22 active members and the following equipment: a GMC tanker-pumper with 1,500 gallon tank and 500 gpm from mount pump equipped with aluminum ladders, hose, and other equipment; a 1983 C-70 Chevrolet with 427 cubic inch V-8 with 750 gpm PTO midship pump, 1,200 gallon tank with 10" quick dump, aluminum ladders, hose, etc.; a ¾ ton 4WD Chevrolet pickup used for grass fires with a 250 gallon tank, 150 foot ¾" hose with fog nozzle on hose reel, 150 gpm Myers pump with a 14 hp Kohler electric start engine, four 500 watt lights, and an 8000 No. electric winch with 150' cable; and a 1975 Mack 2,900 gallon tanker. 1973 Chevrolet step van equipment vehicle and 1989 4wd Chevrolet Suburban serves as a first responder vehicle.

The Fire Department has first responders, but the Town contracts with the City of Horicon for ambulance service. The City of Juneau provides back-up service. Map 4-1, Fire Emergency Services, Appendix A, displays fire protection boundaries in Dodge County, and Map 4-2, Emergency Medical Service Areas, displays emergency medical service boundaries in Dodge County.

4.4 School Facilities

The Town of Burnett is served by three school districts; the Beaver Dam School District, the Horicon School District, and the Waupun School District. Map 4-3, School District Boundaries, Appendix A, shows the school district boundaries in Dodge County.

Beaver Dam School District

The Beaver Dam School District contains Jefferson Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, Prairie View Elementary, South Beaver Dam Elementary, Trenton Elementary, Washington Elementary, Wilson Elementary, the Beaver Dam Middle School, the Beaver Dam Charter School, and the Beaver Dam High School. As of the 2002-2003 school year, the Beaver Dam School District had a total of 3,418 students, with 1,439 students enrolled in the elementary school, 741 students enrolled in the middle school, 108 students enrolled in combined elementary/secondary school, and 1,130 students enrolled in the high school.

Horicon School District

The Horicon School District contains Horicon Elementary, Horicon Middle/Junior High, and Horicon High School. As of the 2002-2003 school year, the Horicon School District had a total of 1,045 students, with 408 students enrolled in the elementary school, 233 students enrolled in the middle/junior high school, and 404 students enrolled in the high school.

Waupun School District

The Waupun Dam School District contains Alto Elementary, Amity Elementary, Fox Lake Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, Washington Elementary, the Waupun Middle School, the Waupun Alternative High School, and the Waupun High School. As of the 2002-2003 school year, the Waupun School District had a total of 2,320 students, with 1,005 students enrolled in the elementary school, 523 students enrolled in the middle school, and 792 students enrolled in the high school.

4.5 Quasi Public Facilities

Libraries

There are no libraries located in the Town. Residents utilize the libraries of neighboring communities, primarily Horicon, Beaver Dam, Juneau, and Waupun.

Churches and Cemeteries

Cemeteries include Burnett Union, Burnett Central, and Stone Cemetery, which is maintained by the Town. There are two Lutheran churches in the Town including Zion Evangelical Lutheran and Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran.

Post Offices

A post office is located on 2nd street in the Town.

Civic Organizations and Other Clubs

- Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary
- 4-H Club
- T.T. Riders Snowmobile Club

4.6 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space

Over the years, the Dodge County Planning and Development Department as well as private consulting firms have prepared Comprehensive Parks, Outdoor Recreation, and Open Space Plans for many of the municipalities within Dodge County. The Town of Burnett participated with Dodge County in 1990 to develop a local plan for Town park and recreation facilities. The plan has not been updated since then. All plans need to be updated on a five-year basis in order to maintain eligibility for State recreation grant funding.

The following represents park and recreation facilities located in the Town of Burnett.

Pieper Waterfowl Production Area

The Pieper Waterfowl Production Area consists of 81 acres located in the Town of Burnett along STH 26 just south of Red Cedar Road. The site is about 500 feet west of the Wild Goose State Trail. The site is managed to provide wetland and grassland habitat for waterfowl production and resident wildlife. Hunting, trapping, hiking, and nature observation and photography are opportunities provided for.

Horicon State Wildlife Area

The Horicon State Wildlife Area makes up the southern one-third of the Horicon Marsh, totaling about 10,928 acres. This State owned and Department of Natural Resources operated and managed wildlife area provides a variety of recreational opportunities while still protecting nesting habitats and critical resource areas. Canoeing, fishing, hunting, wildlife watching, and hiking are the primary recreational activities available in the area. Four DNR boat landings provide water access to the area; City of Horicon – Chestnut Street, City of Horicon – Nebraska Street, Town of Burnett – Burnett Ditch Road and Town of Williamstown – Greenhead Road.

The “Conservation Hill” area around the old Department of Natural Resources field station on Palmatory Drive, in the southeast portion of the property contains hiking/cross-country skiing trails, and scenic overlooks of the marsh. Hiking areas are also available, for example, the Indermuehle Island to the west of Conservation Hill and One Mile Island to the east of Conservation Hill.

The DNR office building is located off of HWY 28 and provides marsh viewing opportunities and an information resource area. Future plans call for the development of the Horicon Marsh International Education Center to serve the hundreds of thousands of annual visitors to the area. The center will provide the mostly unmet educational and interpretational needs of these visitors and residents of the area.

Nitschke Mounds Park

Acquired by the County in 2003, Nitschke Mounds Park is a 54 acre property located adjacent to Highway 26 and CTH E in the Town of Burnett. The park is home to one of the most famous and best surviving effigy mound groups in the world. Approximately 40 effigies, both linear and conical mounds, remain on the site. The property also borders the Wild Goose State Trail and future developments will accommodate trail users. The potential facilities for this property include parking areas, picnic areas, camp sites, horse riding area, hiking trails with interpretive signs, and a possible wetland restoration area.

The following recommendations were included in the 2003 Dodge County Park, Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan. The recommendations are included in this report as the improvements will affect the facility in the Town of Burnett

1. Develop a master plan to guide the development of the park.
2. Perform an analysis and inventory of the archeological sites on the property.
3. Rent out the use of the agricultural land, until the site is ready for development.
4. Construct parking access for the mound trails and WGST users
5. Develop picnic areas with a shelter
6. Develop camping areas
7. Install benches, informational kiosks and interpretive signage where appropriate
8. Establish native prairie plantings in the northeast field
9. Identify or restore the destroyed mounds
10. Construct replicas of Native American structures for educational purposes
11. Improve pond shoreline
12. Repair eroded shoreline of pond
13. Construct system of trails throughout the park
14. Develop parking and other facilities to accommodate school buses for school groups

Wild Goose State Trail

The Wild Goose State Trail is a 34-mile multi-use recreation trail which runs north from STH 60 to the City of Fond du Lac on an abandoned railroad bed along the western edge of the Horicon Marsh. There is parking for trail access in Burnett at the Fireman's Park, about a ¼ mile west of trail. Approximately twenty miles of the trail are within Dodge County, with a separate segment of trail for horses. The trail is state-owned; however it is maintained and operated by Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties. The trail is primarily used to accommodate hiking and biking, however during winter months the trail is used by ATV's and snowmobiles. Trail spurs connecting the trail with the Cities of Waupun, Beaver Dam and Horicon should be explored. Moreover, a southern extension to the City of Watertown and eventually to the Glacial Drumlin Trail should also be considered to provide a regional trail connection.

The following recommendations were included in the 2003 Dodge County Park, Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan. The recommendations are included in this report as the improvements will affect the facility in the Town of Burnett

1. Develop parking lots in Burnett and East Waupun area and other locations as opportunities arise.
2. Expand the HWY 60 trailhead parking lot.
3. Develop and implement a plan to extend the trail south to eventually connect with the Glacial Drumlin Trail in Jefferson County.
4. Promote trail spurs from the Wild Goose Trail to the Cities of Beaver Dam, Horicon, and Waupun.
5. Complete the acquisition and development of the trail corridor within the City of Juneau.
6. Establish a written agreement with the City of Juneau regarding the rights and responsibilities of both the County and the City in regards to the portions of the trail that are owned by the City of Juneau.
7. Develop permanent vault toilet buildings at various trail locations
8. Pave portions of the trail where more urbanized trail use occurs

9. Establish an annual resurfacing schedule and rotation to reduce maintenance costs and keep trail surface safe
10. Update the Trail Master Plan

Horicon Marsh Parkway

The Horicon Marsh Parkway formerly known as the Wild Goose Parkway is a 36 mile auto tour route encircling the Horicon Marsh. The parkway route follows State and County Highways as it passes through or near the communities around the Horicon Marsh and provides access to numerous recreational facilities around the marsh. Brown and white signage with the parkway symbol help keep travelers on track and to signify changes in direction.

Local Parks

Burnett Fireman's Park and Karstedt Memorial Park are both located in the unincorporated village. Park amenities include picnic tables, playgrounds, softball diamond, basketball hoops, toilets (indoor with plumbing), and an enclosed building for rental of kitchen facilities.

Map 4-4, County, State, & Federal Recreation Areas, shows the Town, County, State and Federal Recreational Facilities in Dodge County.

4.7 Solid Waste Management and Recycling

The Burnett Dump & Recycling Center is located at N9167 Hwy 26, Burnett. Services are provided to Burnett residents only; the Town is responsible for recycling management.

Facility hours are as follows:

Hours: Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Additional Summer Hours: Thursdays 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Memorial Day through Labor Day

There is no curb-side pick up of solid waste. Residents can privately contract for curb-side service if they choose.

The Town charges 50 cents per 30-gallon bag to dispose of solid waste. There is no charge for yard waste and clean recyclables. A compost site is also available to residents.

4.8 Communication and Power Facilities

SBC is the local provider for telephone service. Alliant Energy provides natural gas to the Town as well as electricity. There is one cellular tower in the Town. Map 4-5, Telephone Service Providers, Map 4-6, Electric Utilities and Cooperatives, and Map 4-7, Natural Gas Service facilities display the related information.

4.9 Sanitary Sewer Service

Existing Conditions: The Burnett Sanitary District owns a wastewater treatment plant and provides sewer service to residents in the unincorporated Village of Burnett. Map 4-8, Public Sewer and Water Facilities displays the general location of public sewer and water facilities in Dodge County. The Town of Burnett Sanitary District is shown on Map 4-9, Burnett Utilities and Community Facilities. Those in the Town that are not served by public sewer must rely on private onsite wastewater treatment systems.

The Burnett Sanitary District is approximately 100 acres of land located adjacent to STH 26. The Sanitary District was formed in the mid 1970's in response to eroding water quality due to the density of development in the unincorporated Village of Burnett. The Burnett Treatment Plant was constructed in the late 1970's and was designed with a 37,000 gallon per day (GPD) treatment capacity. Sewage treatment is provided through three aeration lagoons, with treatment being provided through a 20-30 day detention treatment process. The collection system serves approximately 300 residents, mostly on the east side of STH 26. Average daily flows range between 32,000 and 40,000 GPD, with the higher flows typically coinciding with storm events or wet season conditions. The higher flows in wet conditions may be an indication of clear water system infiltration or individual clear water connections to the collection system.

The entire collection system is served with one lift station that has two pumps. Scheduled maintenance has been performed in accordance with need. In terms of providing treatment, the system is currently operating within permitted discharge limits as established by the WDNR. A five year operating permit was issued by the WDNR in 2003 for discharge into Spring Brook, with an anticipated permit renewal in 2007. The sanitary district utilizes a private contractor to perform plant operations and system maintenance.

In terms of land use, most of the properties in the district are residential with relatively stable flow. Vacant lands are available for additional development that could be serviced with sewer. T

The Treatment Plant is operating in accordance with its design; however, the Treatment Plant is near or at its 20 year design life. System maintenance and relatively little development in the Sanitary District have allowed the treatment system to adequately service existing users without much investment by the Town other than necessary maintenance.

4.10 Private On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems (POWTS)

Private on-site wastewater treatment systems, or POWTS, are systems that receive domestic quality wastewater and either retain it in a holding tank, or treat it and discharge it into the soil, beneath the ground surface. The Wisconsin Department of Commerce has administrative rules, Comm 83, for building plumbing and nonmunicipal sewer lines, and for private onsite wastewater treatment systems. Any system with a final discharge exposing treated wastewater upon the ground surface, or discharging directly into surface waters of the state, is subject to DNR regulation. Additionally, certain POWTS are subject to both Department of Commerce and Department of Natural Resources review and regulation.

Wisconsin Administrative Code Comm 83 was revised during the 1990s to add provisions for new system technologies and land suitability criteria and, came into effect on July 1, 2000. Unlike the code it replaced, the new rules prescribe end results - the purity of groundwater discharged from the system - instead of the specific characteristics of the installation.

4.11 Public Water Supply

There are no publicly operated water supply facilities located in the Town. Residents must rely upon private wells for water.

4.12 Stormwater Management

There are no storm sewers located in the Town. The primary method of stormwater management is through culverts and open ditches.

4.13 Health Care Facilities

There are no health care facilities located in the Town. A full range of medical services are available in the City of Beaver Dam. Regional medical services are available in the City of Madison and Milwaukee.

4.14 Day Care Facilities

There are no commercial day care facilities located in the Town.

4.15 Utilities and Community Facilities Trends and Outlook

The following trends need to be anticipated with regard to planning for future utilities and community facilities in the Town of Burnett:

- ♦ Local government budget constraints will drive the need for intergovernmental cooperation for services and programs;
- ♦ There will be an increased need for communities and other jurisdictions to coordinate the development of trails and other recreational facilities;
- ♦ Increased development in rural areas may create the need for more police and other governmental services;
- ♦ Increasing residential development in rural areas may cause the need for more school transportation resources, such as more buses and bus drivers.

- ♦ Schools and school districts will continue to seek new ways to share services and reduce expenses in order to efficiently manage enrollment. School district consolidation is not beyond the realm of possibilities within the 20-year planning period.
- ♦ Infrastructure planning and growth coordination will be primary in development considerations as “cost effectiveness determinations” will drive planned growth infrastructure improvements and the corresponding location of development.
- ♦ County POWTS programs will expand due to additional state requirements to inventory and monitor the maintenance of all POWTS within their jurisdiction

5 Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources



5. Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources

5.1 Introduction

This element provides an inventory and assessment of the agricultural, natural, and cultural resources for the Town of Burnett. Land development patterns are directly linked to the resource base; therefore, these features need to be considered before making any decisions concerning future development within the Town. The Town of Burnett's agricultural, natural, and cultural resources contribute greatly to its residents' quality of life.

5.2 Soils

Soil is composed of varying proportions of sand, gravel, silt, clay, and organic material. The composition of a soil must be evaluated prior to any development, as varying limitations exist for each soil. Dodge County soils are products of the deposits left after the glacier receded about 12,000 years ago. These deposits consisted of sand, gravel, large rocks, clay, limestone fragments, and igneous and metamorphic rocks. The deposits have prompted mineral and sand and gravel extraction throughout some of the communities in Dodge County.

The majority of soils in the Town of Burnett are upland silt loam considered good for agricultural uses. Topsoil generally ranges between 10 and 14 inches in depth. The seven general soil associations found in the Town of Burnett include Fox-Casco-Rodman, McHenry-Pella, Plano-Mendota, Houghton-Pella, St. Charles-LeRoy-Lomira, Theresa-Lamartine-Hochheim, and St. Charles-Miami-Elburn.

5.3 Prime Agricultural Soils

The soils in Dodge County are classified by the United States Department of Agriculture to represent different levels of agricultural use. Class I, II, or III soils are all considered good soils for agricultural production. This classification system is based on criteria of production potential, soil conditions, and other basic production related criteria. All the soils classified as Class I and Class II are identified as prime agricultural soils. Whereas only some of the Class III soils are considered prime agricultural soils and the remaining soil is considered farmland of statewide importance. Map 5-1, Prime Agricultural Soils, shows the location of the prime agricultural soils in the Town of Burnett.

Agricultural farming practices are usually in conjunction with prime agricultural soils. Many of the dairy farm operations in the Town of Burnett are on good agricultural land. The 2003 Wisconsin dairy farm data show the Town of Burnett having approximately 11 active dairy farms.

5.4 Forests

The Town of Burnett is covered by approximately 987 acres of wooded area. Wooded areas have been cleared in the Town to make room for agricultural fields and residential uses. Only about 4.2 percent of the Town's surface area is in woodland use. Map 5-2, shows the woodlots in the Town of Burnett.

There is limited economic potential from the remaining woodlots since they tend to be small and widely scattered. Many contain residential development or are located in public parks and recreation areas.

5.5 Metallic and Nonmetallic Mineral Resources

Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 135 requires that all counties adopt and enforce a Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Ordinance that establishes performance standards for the reclamation of active and future nonmetallic mining sites. It is intended that NR 135 will contribute to environmental protection, stable non-eroding sites, productive end land use, and the potential to enhance habitat and increase land values and tax revenues.

Dodge County has a Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Overlay District as part of its adopted Land Use Code. The purpose of this overlay district is to establish a local program to ensure the effective reclamation of non-metallic mining sites in Dodge County.

The Town of Burnett currently has one active nonmetallic mine covering approximately 47 acres. Map 4-9, shows the location of the non-metallic mine in the Town of Burnett.

5.6 Wetlands

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, wetlands are areas where water covers the soil, or is present either at or near the surface of the soil all year or for varying periods of time during the year, including during the growing season. Water saturation (hydrology) largely determines how the soil develops and the types of plant and animal communities living in and on the soil. Wetlands may support both aquatic and terrestrial species. The prolonged presence of water creates conditions that favor the growth of specially adapted plants (hydrophytes) and promote the development of characteristic wetland (hydric) soils.

Wetlands may be seasonal or permanent and are commonly referred to as swamps, marshes, fens, or bogs. Wetland plants and soils have the capacity to store and filter pollutants ranging from pesticides to animal wastes. Wetlands can make lakes, rivers, and streams cleaner, and drinking water safer. Wetlands also provide valuable habitat for fish, plants, and animals. In addition, some wetlands can also replenish groundwater supplies. Groundwater discharge from wetlands is common and can be important in maintaining stream flows, especially during dry months.

Local, state, and federal regulations place limitations on the development and use of wetlands and shorelands. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) has inventory maps for each community that identify wetlands two acres and larger. The wetland inventory map should be consulted whenever development proposals are reviewed in order to identify wetlands and to ensure their protection from development. Map 5-3, Wetlands, Watersheds, Streams, and Surface Water, shows the environmental features in the Town.

Horicon National Wildlife Refuge and Horicon Marsh Wildlife Area

These two protected wildlife areas, collectively known as the Horicon Marsh, make up the largest freshwater cattail marsh in the United States. This marsh has been designated as “A Wetland of International Importance” by the Ramsar Convention and accepted as a “Globally Important Bird Area” by the American Bird Conservancy. The Green Bay Lobe of the Wisconsin glacier formed the Horicon Marsh during the last Ice Age more than 10,000 years ago. The glacier left behind a shallow, 50-square mile lake as it receded. Over time, this lake and the deposit of silt and organic materials reduced the depth of the basin. Due to its geological significance, Horicon Marsh has been included as a unit of the Ice Age National Scenic Reserve in cooperation with the National Park Service. The northern two-thirds of the marsh is under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the southern one-third is under the jurisdiction of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

After many years of damming, ditching, and draining in an attempt to alter the marsh, the Wisconsin Legislature passed the Horicon Marsh Wildlife Refuge Bill in 1927 for the restoration of the Marsh including land acquisition and dam construction to re-flood this drained wetland. Today, the Horicon Marsh covers about 32,000 acres, making it the largest freshwater marsh in the upper Midwest.

5.7 Floodplains

For planning and regulatory purposes, the floodplain is normally defined as those areas, excluding the stream channel, that are subject to inundation by the 100-year recurrence interval flood event. This event has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year. Because of this chance of flooding, development in floodplain should be discouraged and the development of park and open space in these areas encouraged. The floodplain includes the floodway and flood fringe. The floodway is the portion of the floodplain that carries flood water or flood flows, while the flood fringe is the portion of the floodplain outside the floodway, which is covered by waters during a flood event. The flood fringe is generally associated with standing water rather than rapidly flowing water.

Wisconsin Statute 87.30 requires Counties, Cities, and Villages to implement floodplain zoning. In addition, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has developed flood hazard data. The floodplain areas in the Town of Burnett are mainly in the Horicon Marsh area and in the north portion of the Town. The floodplain areas of the Town of Burnett are shown on Map 5-4.

5.8 Watersheds and Drainage

The Town of Burnett is located in the Upper Rock River Basin. This basin includes 13 surface watersheds. The Upper Rock River Basin encompasses about 1,890 square miles. The Rock River Basin covers 3,700 square miles.

A report from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources titled *The State of the Rock River Basin* was completed in April of 2002. According to the report, the most serious challenges facing the Basin include:

- ♦ Water quality impacts and increased runoff quantity from agriculture and urban land uses, such that many of the rivers and streams are not meeting water quality standards.
- ♦ Loss of agricultural lands impacts wildlife habitat, recreational usages, the rural landowners, and the economy because it changes the nature of the basin.
- ♦ Loss of critical, sensitive habitat and connection between habitats.
- ♦ Significant groundwater contamination in areas of the Basin.
- ♦ Lower urban groundwater levels due to increased use and decreased groundwater infiltration due to more acres of impervious land.

5.9 Surface Water Features

There are approximately 409 acres of surface water in the Town of Burnett, including Horicon Marsh and the ditches that run into the Marsh. As the Town does not have any named lakes, surface water accounts for only 1.7% of total land. Spring Brook and the East Fork and West Branch of the Rock River are the only named waterways in the Town.

Waterway Classification

The Dodge County Planning and Development Department completed a waterway classification project in 2003. The goal of the waterway classification project was to provide the County with a method of categorizing or classifying each lake, river, and stream by their unique characteristics. The classification of lakes, rivers, and streams was based on criteria developed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). The Existing Development Criterion was used with the Total Lake or Stream Sensitivity Criteria to develop the final classification of Class 1, 2, or 3 for each waterway. Using this method, a lake, river, or stream's level of existing development is given the same importance or weight as its sensitivity to future development impacts based on physical characteristics.

A Class 1 waterway is the most sensitive to future development and has a lower level of existing development. A Class 3 waterway is the least sensitive to future development and has a higher level of existing development. The following listing contains the Town of Burnett waterways that were classified and their final classification:

Spring Brook – Class 3
 East Fork Rock River – Class 3
 West Branch Rock River – Class 2

5.10 Groundwater Resources

The source of all groundwater is precipitation, which percolates down through the soil until it reaches the saturated zone called an aquifer, where it is then contained. Water is stored in an aquifer, and travels through rock fissions from its source to a discharge point such as a well, wetland, spring, or lake. During periods of increased precipitation or thaw, this vast resource is replenished with water moving by gravity through permeable soils which is called a water table

system. In some instances, groundwater moves because of pressure created by a confining layer of impervious rock which is called an artesian system. The availability of groundwater within the Town of Burnett should be investigated before any development occurs.

Most groundwater contamination is related to poorly sited land uses. For example, agricultural manure, petroleum, and salt storage in areas of high groundwater tables or fractured bedrock are all potential sources of groundwater pollution. Contamination of groundwater reserves can also result from such sources as percolation of water through improperly placed or maintained landfill sites, private waste disposal (septic effluent), runoff from livestock yards and urban areas, improper application of agricultural pesticide or fertilizers, excessive lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides, leaks from sewer pipes, and seepage from mining operations. Runoff from leaking petroleum storage tanks and spills can also add organic and chemical contaminants in locations where the water table is near the surface. Once groundwater contamination has occurred, successful remediation is expensive and can take years, or may never occur, depending upon the pollutant. Therefore, when considering specific land uses for an area, it is vital to consider the physical characteristics of the area and the relationships between the land and the proposed/actual use in order to ensure that groundwater contamination does not occur.

Within Dodge County there are areas that have natural occurring and human influenced well contaminations. According to studies performed by University of Wisconsin-Extension offices, there are multiple types of contaminations in Dodge County. One major contamination is nitrates, which are mainly human influenced and a major concern in parts of Dodge County. Currently, the Town of Burnett has higher than average nitrate levels. Also, the Town has some high chloride levels. These two types of contamination may be linked to agricultural practices, shallow bedrock, or uncontrolled spreading of contaminants. Another contamination that raises concern is the high number of positive bacteria samples in an area. The Town of Burnett has a fair number of positive bacteria samples. Some of these contaminations can be linked to unique bedrock or groundwater features, or current or past land use practices in the area. To help control future well contaminations the Town of Burnett should conduct testing to identify contaminated areas and reduce development in those areas.

5.11 Air Quality

Air quality, especially good air quality, is often taken for granted. The eastern portion of Wisconsin experiences high concentrations of ground-level ozone. Ground-level ozone, or smog, forms when pollutants emitted from vehicle exhaust, power plants, factories, and other combustion sources combine in the hot summer sun. In addition, warm weather causes an increase in air conditioner usage, which can increase harmful emissions from these sources.

To manage the state's air quality, the DNR uses both a network of air quality monitors and a series of air pollution control rules that limit emissions from air pollution sources based on various criteria. There is one air monitoring site in Dodge County, located in the City of Mayville.

5.12 Environmental Corridors/Sensitive Areas

Environmental corridors are continuous systems of open space that often include environmentally sensitive lands including woodlands, wetlands and habitat areas, natural and

cultural resources requiring protection from disturbance and development, and lands needed for open space and recreational use. Environmental corridors serve multiple functions. Protection and preservation of environmental corridors contribute to water quality through reduction of nonpoint source pollution and protection of natural drainage systems. Environmental corridors can also protect and preserve sensitive natural resource areas such as wetlands, floodplains, woodlands, steep slopes, native grasslands, prairies, prairie savannas, groundwater recharge areas, and other areas that would impair habitat and surface or groundwater quality if disturbed or developed. Map 5-5, Environmental Corridors, shows the location of environmental areas and the associated natural limitations for building site development in the Town of Burnett.

5.13 Threatened and Endangered Species

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) lists species as "endangered" when the continued existence of that species as a viable component of the state's wild animals or wild plants is determined to be in jeopardy on the basis of scientific evidence. "Threatened" species are listed when it appears likely based on scientific evidence that the species may become endangered within the foreseeable future. The WDNR also lists species of "special concern" of which some problem of abundance or distribution is suspected but not yet proved; the intent of this classification is to focus attention on certain species before becoming endangered or threatened.

Table 5-1 shows the rare, threatened, and endangered species that may be found in the Town of Burnett and Dodge County.

Table 5-1
Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species,
Town of Burnett and Dodge County

	Wisconsin Status	Taxa
Plants		
Lesser Fringed Gentian	Special Concern	
Richardson Sedge	Special Concern	
Showy Lady's-Slipper	Special Concern	
Slim-Stem Small-Reedgrass	Special Concern	
Small White Lady's-Slipper	Threatened	
Wafer-Ash	Special Concern	
Yellow Gentian	Threatened	
Animals		
Cantrall's Bog Beetle	Special Concern	Beetle
Giant Carrion Beetle	Endangered	Beetle
Barn Owl	Endangered	Bird
Black-Crowned Night-Heron	Special Concern	Bird
Forster's Tern	Endangered	Bird
Great Egret	Threatened	Bird
Red-Shouldered Hawk	Threatened	Bird
Gorgone Checker Spot	Special Concern	Butterfly
Side-Swimmer	Special Concern	Crustacean
American Eel	Special Concern	Fish
Banded Killfish	Special Concern	Fish
Least Darter	Special Concern	Fish
Pugnose Minnow	Special Concern	Fish
Redfin Shiner	Threatened	Fish
River Redhorse	Threatened	Fish
Slender Madtom	Endangered	Fish
Striped Shiner	Endangered	Fish
Week Shiner	Special Concern	Fish
Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Endangered	Frog
Arctic Shrew	Special Concern	Mammal
Franklin's Ground Squirrel	Special Concern	Mammal
Pigmy Shrew	Special Concern	Mammal
Prairie Vole	Special Concern	Mammal
Ellipse	Threatened	Mussel
Blanding's Turtle	Threatened	Turtle

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

5.14 Wildlife Habitat and Recreational Areas

Wildlife habitat can be simply defined as the presence of enough food, cover, and water to sustain a species. The wetland areas of the Town of Burnett are particularly accommodating to many types of waterfowl, such as geese, ducks, herons, egrets, and swans. The Town also has upland habitat areas suited for pheasants. The Town of Burnett is also home to a variety of song birds and the typical upland animals of southern Wisconsin, including deer, rabbit, fox, raccoon, squirrel, and muskrat.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources identifies State Natural Areas, which are defined as tracts of land in a natural or near natural state and which are managed to serve several purposes including scientific research, teaching of resource management, and preservation of rare native plants and ecological communities. There are no State Natural Areas in the Town of Burnett.

Wisconsin's Land Legacy Program

At the request of the Natural Resources Board, the Department of Natural Resources undertook a study to identify places that would be critical in meeting Wisconsin's conservation and recreation needs over the next 50 years. The study did not address how or when these "Legacy Places" should be protected or who should be responsible for implementing protection measures. The outcome of the three-year effort was a Land Legacy Report that catalogues the results of the study. The Horicon Marsh Wildlife Area has been identified as a Land Legacy site in the Town of Burnett (see Map 5-6, Appendix A). The Horicon Marsh occupies approximately 28% of the Town's total land area.

5.15 Historic Places

State and National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places recognizes properties of local, state, and national significance. Properties are listed in the National Register because of their associations with significant persons or events, because they contain important information about our history or prehistory, or because of their architectural or engineering significance. The National Register also lists important groupings of properties as historic districts. In addition, the National Park Service highlights properties that have significance to the nation as a whole by conferring on them the status of National Historic Landmark.

The Wisconsin State Register of Historic Places parallels the National Register. However, it is designed to enable state-level historic preservation protection and benefits. Most of the properties in Wisconsin listed in the National Register are also listed in the State Register.

- ♦ The Willard Greenfield farmstead is the one site in the Town of Burnett that is listed on the State and National Register and shown on Map 5-6, Historical, Cultural, and Archeological Resources.

Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory

The Wisconsin Architecture & History Inventory (AHI) provided by the Wisconsin Historical Society lists historical and architectural information on properties in Wisconsin. The AHI contains data on buildings, structures, and objects that illustrate Wisconsin's unique history. The majority of properties listed are privately owned. Listed properties convey no special status, rights, or benefits. These sites should be periodically reviewed for possible designation on state or national registers.

According to the AHI, the Town of Burnett has 23 sites on the Wisconsin Architecture & History Inventory. For purposes of plan and mapping coordination with Dodge County, the sites were not mapped or listed in this document. To get a description of the AHI sites in the Town of Burnett, see the AHI website: www.wisconsinhistory.org/index.html

5.16 Cultural Resources

Cultural Facilities

Cultural amenities enhance the quality of life, encourage residential development and attract tourism. Such amenities are limited in the Town of Burnett since it lacks the support populations needed for diverse cultural opportunities. There are no cultural facilities such as libraries, museums, and historical markers in the Town of Burnett. However, every community has local sites that lend themselves to cultural enhancement, such as the Springbrook Resort or local history offered through old buildings. The rural nature of a community such as Burnett is often the cultural resource itself.

Preserving important aspects of our past gives us a sense of continuity and meaning and historic preservation efforts often foster community pride. Because cultural resources provide an important window to the past, many Wisconsin residents seek to retain those resources that make their communities distinctive. The presence of these resources also creates a level of respect for those individuals who formed the character of the community new residents now enjoy.

In addition to maintaining a community's distinctive character, cultural resource preservation can lead to tangible economic benefits. For example, by retaining and emphasizing historic heritage, tourism can increase. In urban areas, where the deterioration of central-city neighborhoods has resulted in a decline in property values, preservation offers a positive alternative to continued decay. In many cases, overall neighborhood improvement and investment in rehabilitation has led to increased real estate values and municipal tax revenues.

5.17 Community Design

Community design as a cultural resource helps explain the origins and history of how a given community looks, feels, and functions in the present day. Components of the origin of community design include historic settlement patterns, resource use (like mining, farming, and forestry) in rural areas, the industries and businesses that influenced urban areas, transportation features and traffic flow patterns, natural features like rivers, lakes, and wetlands, and the heritage and values of the people that lived in a community in the past and that live there today.

These factors might be expressed through street layout, building architecture, landscaping, preservation of natural features, development density, and other components of development design. The design of a community as seen today might also be influenced by community decisions including the use of zoning and subdivision controls, the establishment of parks and other community facilities, the use of historic preservation, and in some cases, the use of land use planning. Community design in Burnett may not be the most important issue, but design does have relevance in how the town continues to develop and manage growth, especially for new commercial or industrial development.

5.18 Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources Trends

The following are anticipated trends in regard to agricultural, natural, and cultural resources in the Town of Burnett for the planning period:

- ♦ The number of farms will continue to decline;
- ♦ The size of the average farm will continue to show moderate increases;
- ♦ Pressure to convert farmland to other uses will increase;
- ♦ The number of dairy farms will continue to decline;
- ♦ Dairy herd sizes will continue to increase;
- ♦ Dairy herd production will continue to increase;
- ♦ The number of large “commercial” type farming will increase, especially dairy;
- ♦ Interest in farmland preservation programs will decrease;
- ♦ Interest in cash cropping will increase;
- ♦ Interest in specialty farming will increase;
- ♦ Farmers will be retiring in greater numbers resulting in potential greater losses of farms
- ♦ Interest in “value-added” businesses to complement small dairy and general farming operations will increase;
- ♦ Large dairies required to obtain Wisconsin Point Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permits will increase;
- ♦ Interest in voluntary management programs that supply a property tax break, such as Managed Forest Law (MFL), will increase;
- ♦ Interest in using waterways and the Horicon Marsh for recreational purposes will continue;

- ♦ The Town's woodlands and highland areas will be desired as residential building sites;
- ♦ Challenges to groundwater resources will grow including increasing quantity of withdrawal and increasing of potential contamination sources;
- ♦ Highway expansion and increased traffic will have a negative impact on air quality.

6 Economic Development



6. Economic Development

6.1 Introduction

This section contains an inventory of economic characteristics found in the Town of Burnett. Analysis and inventory information contained within this section will help in identifying deficiencies and opportunities for economic development within the community.

6.2 Labor Force and Employment Status

Civilian Labor Force

The labor force, according to the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development definition, includes those who are either working or looking for work, but does not include individuals who have made a choice to not work. This may include retirees, homemakers, and students. The labor force does not include institutional residents, military personnel, or discouraged job seekers.

Table 6-1
Civilian Labor Force Annual Averages, Dodge County and Wisconsin,
1999-2002

	1999	2000	2001	2002	# Change 1999-02	% Change 1999-02
Dodge County						
Labor Force	47,110	47,651	48,384	48,607	1,497	3.2%
Employment	45,932	46,142	45,837	46,060	128	0.3%
Unemployment	1,178	1,509	2,547	2,547	1,369	116.2%
Unemployment Rate	2.5	3.2	5.3	5.2	2.7	108.0%
Wisconsin						
Labor Force	2,889,812	2,934,931	2,990,578	3,062,314	172,502	6.0%
Employment	2,801,777	2,831,162	2,854,473	2,904,549	102,772	3.7%
Unemployment	88,035	103,769	136,105	157,766	69,731	79.2%
Unemployment Rate	3.0	3.5	4.6	5.1	2.1	71.4%

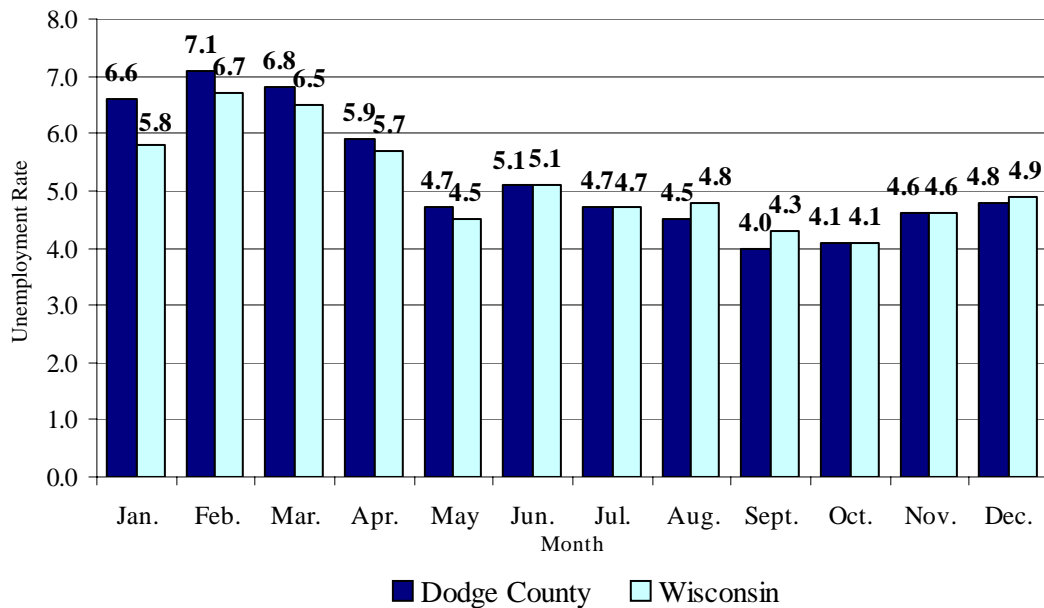
Source: Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Bureau of Workforce Information, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 1999-2002.

The labor force of Dodge County has increased by 1,497 persons since 1999, or 3.2%.

Unemployment Rates

The number of unemployed in the county includes not only those who are receiving unemployment benefits, but also any resident who actively looked for a job and did not find one. Unemployment rates by month for 2002 are illustrated in Figure 6-1.

Figure 6-1: Monthly Unemployment Rates, Dodge County and Wisconsin, 2002



Source: Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Bureau of Workforce Information, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2002.

Dodge County experienced an unemployment rate during 2002 that was very similar to the state as a whole. Unemployment is generally lower in the summer due to seasonal work such as tourism, agriculture, and construction, a trend typically found throughout Wisconsin.

Income

Table 6-2 displays the 1999 household income and median household income for Town of Burnett and Dodge County as reported by the 2000 Census. The highest percentage (30.5 percent) of residents in the Town of Burnett had a household income between \$50,000 to \$74,000. The next largest percentage (18.3 percent) of household income was \$75,000 to \$99,999, which was much higher than the County's percentage of 10.5. Approximately 7.5 percent of the households in the Town of Burnett had a household income of \$100,000 or greater; this exceeded the County's rate of 6.9. The median household income for the Town of Burnett was \$55,000. The median income for Dodge County was \$45,190, slightly higher than the State's reported median income of \$43,791.

Table 6-2
Household Income, Town of Burnett and Dodge County, 1999

	T. Burnett		Dodge County	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Less than \$10,000	24	7.2%	1,659	5.3%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	9	2.7%	1,627	5.2%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	30	9.0%	3,579	11.4%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	33	9.9%	4,434	14.1%
\$35,000 to 49,999	50	15.0%	6,420	20.4%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	102	30.5%	8,326	26.4%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	61	18.3%	3,305	10.5%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	20	6.0%	1,605	5.1%
\$150,000 or More	5	1.5%	558	1.8%
Total	334	100.1%	31,513	100.2%
Median Household Income	\$55,000		\$45,190	

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

*Percentages may not add up to 100%, due to rounding.

Travel Time to Work

For most of the general population, the location of their home depends on the location of their work. Knowing the amount of time people are willing to travel to work can serve as an indicator for the future location of housing and economic development. Travel time to work is also an indicator of what residents are willing to sacrifice for location. Individuals are often willing to allow for longer commute times to live in a particular area.

Table 6-3 displays the travel time to work for residents of the Town of Burnett.

Table 6-3
Travel Time to Work, Town of Burnett and Dodge County, 2000

	Town of Burnett		Dodge County	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Less than 5 minutes	22	4.2%	3,454	8.1%
5 to 9 minutes	30	5.8%	7,955	18.7%
10 to 14 minutes	147	28.3%	6,884	16.2%
15 to 19 minutes	122	23.5%	5,212	12.2%
20 to 24 minutes	51	9.8%	5,043	11.8%
25 to 29 minutes	30	5.8%	2,015	4.7%
30 to 34 minutes	19	3.7%	3,268	7.7%
35 to 39 minutes	6	1.2%	960	2.3%
40 to 44 minutes	10	1.9%	1,124	2.6%
45 to 59 minutes	19	3.7%	2,530	5.9%
60 to 89 minutes	10	1.9%	1,498	3.5%
90 or more minutes	3	0.6%	731	1.7%
Worked at home	50	9.6%	1,924	4.5%
Total	519	100.0%	42,598	99.9%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

*Percentages may not add up to 100%, due to rounding.

Of those traveling to work in the Town of Burnett, 28.3 percent of the residents had a commute time of 10 to 14 minutes, where 18.7 percent of the residents in Dodge County traveled five to nine minutes to work. There were 9.6 percent of residents in the Town of Burnett that work at home, which is more than twice the percentage (4.5 percent) that work at home in the County. The Town of Burnett has a mean travel time to work of 18 minutes; the County's mean travel time to work is 20.8. The Town's residents may have a high mean travel time since the residents must travel to nearby cities for employment.

6.3 Economic Base Analysis

Employment by Industrial Sector

Employment by industry within an area illustrates the structure of the economy. Historically, Dodge County has had a high concentration of employment in the manufacturing and agricultural sectors of the economy. Recent state and national trends indicate a decreasing concentration of employment in the manufacturing sector while employment within the services sector is increasing. This trend is partly attributed to the aging of the population.

Table 6-4 displays the number and percent of employed persons by industry group in the Town of Burnett and Dodge County for 2000.

Table 6-4
Employment by Industrial Sector, Town of Burnett and Dodge
County, 2000

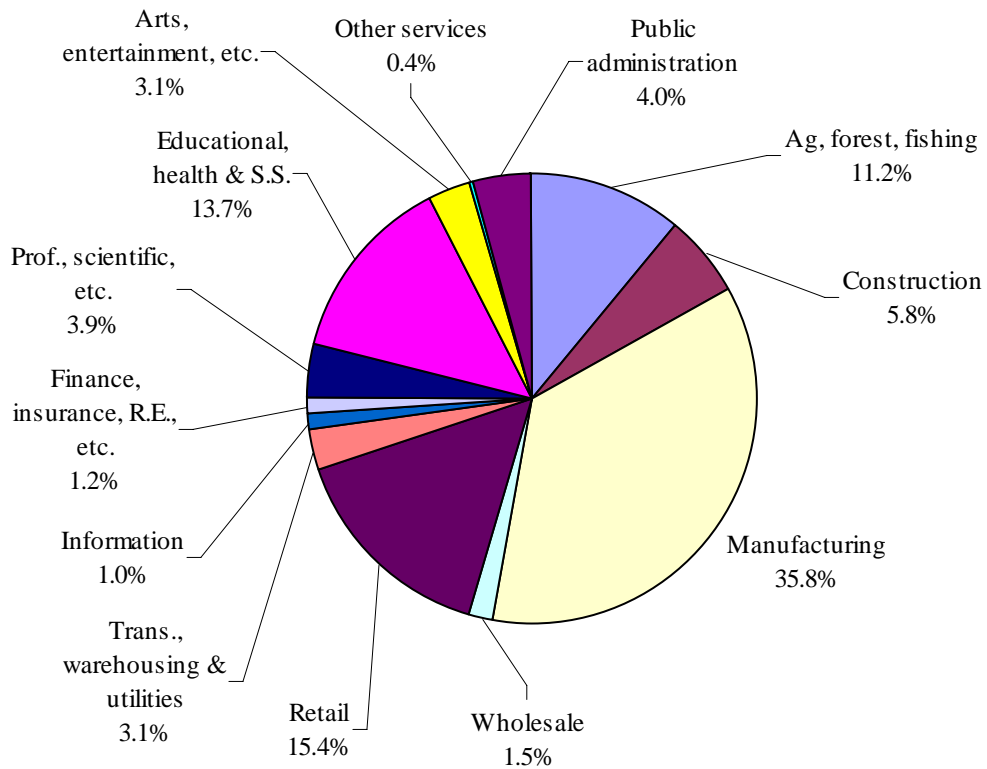
Industry	T. Burnett		Dodge County	
	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	58	11.2%	2,148	5.0%
Construction	30	5.8%	2,840	6.6%
Manufacturing	186	35.8%	14,359	33.2%
Wholesale trade	8	1.5%	1,142	2.6%
Retail trade	80	15.4%	4,668	10.8%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	16	3.1%	1,584	3.7%
Information	5	1.0%	792	1.8%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	6	1.2%	1,523	3.5%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	20	3.9%	1,691	3.9%
Educational, health, and social services	71	13.7%	6,929	16.0%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services	16	3.1%	2,235	5.2%
Other services (except public administration)	2	0.4%	1,555	3.6%
Public administration	21	4.0%	1,731	4.0%
Total	519	100.1%	43,197	99.9%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

*Percentages may not add up to 100%, due to rounding.

The manufacturing sector supplied the most jobs (35.8 percent) and retail trade sector provided the second most jobs (15.4 percent) in the Town of Burnett. The greatest percentage of employment for the county was also in the manufacturing sector (33.2 percent), followed by the educational, health, and social services (16.0 percent). The agricultural, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining sector provided 5.0 percent of the employment by industry in the County. However, in the Town of Burnett the agricultural, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining sector claimed 11.2 percent, more than double the County's percentage. Figure 6-2 also displays employment by industry for Town of Burnett in 2000.

Figure 6-2: Employment by Industry, Town of Burnett, 2000



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

Employment by Occupation

The previous section, Employment by Industry, described employment by the type of business or industry, or sector, of commerce. What people do, or what their occupation is within those sectors, can also reveal factors that influence incomes and overall employment. Table 6-5 displays the number and percent of employed persons by occupation in the Town of Burnett and Dodge County for 2000.

Table 6-5
Employment by Occupation, Town of Burnett and Dodge County,
2000

Occupation	T. Burnett		Dodge County	
	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total
Management, professional, and related occupations	130	25.0%	10,911	25.3%
Service occupations	52	10.0%	5,979	13.8%
Sales and office occupations	99	19.1%	9,298	21.5%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	21	4.0%	660	1.5%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	60	11.6%	4,158	9.6%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	157	30.3%	12,191	28.2%
Total	519	100.0%	43,197	99.9%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

*Percentages may not add up to 100%, due to rounding.

The production, transportation, and material moving occupations accounted for 30.3 percent of the employment by occupation in the Town of Burnett. The occupation with the greatest percentage of employment in Dodge County was in production, transportation, and material moving occupations, containing 28.2 percent of total employment. In the Town of Burnett, management, professional, and related occupations contained 25 percent of the employment by occupation, where as the County had nearly the same percentage of 25.3 percent in that occupation. The County also has 21.5 percent of its residents employed in the sales and office occupation.

Wages

The wages that are provided by a particular industry in a particular area can offer several insights. For example, higher wages within an industry, when compared to neighboring communities, can indicate strengths in a particular economic segment. That wage can also be used to attract commuters and new residents to the area. A higher than average wage and a dependence on a particular industry can also lead to local recession if there should be a downturn within the industry. Lower than average wages can indicate a lower quality of life in the area or a lack of highly qualified labor.

Table 6-6 displays the annual average wage by industry in the Dodge County and Wisconsin.

Table 6-6
Annual Average Wage by Industry Division, Dodge County and
Wisconsin, 2002

	Dodge County Annual Average Wage	Wisconsin Annual Average Wage	Percent of State Average	1-Year Percent Change	5-Year Percent Change
All industries*	\$29,566	\$30,922	95.6%	1.5%	20.0%
Agriculture, Forestry, & Fishing	\$25,070	\$22,565	111.1%	0.4%	17.2%
Construction	\$44,962	\$39,011	115.3%	2.8%	25.3%
Manufacturing	\$35,955	\$39,739	90.5%	0.9%	15.2%
Transportation, Communications, & Utilities	\$27,962	\$36,639	76.3%	0.1%	14.3%
Wholesale Trade	\$32,405	\$40,521	80.0%	3.2%	46.1%
Retail Trade	\$13,652	\$14,596	93.5%	4.3%	20.5%
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	\$24,988	\$40,933	61.0%	5.1%	11.6%
Services	\$22,769	\$28,775	79.1%	4.8%	27.0%
Total Government	\$30,724	\$33,785	90.9%	0.5%	22.1%

*Mining excluded from table since wages were suppressed to maintain confidentiality in every county.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Employment, Wages, and Taxes Due covered by Wisconsin's U.C. Law, 2002.

The construction and manufacturing industries in Dodge County offered the highest annual average wages in 2002. The agriculture, forestry, and fishing industry along with the construction industry had an annual average wage greater than the State of Wisconsin as a whole. The greatest disparity in wages between Dodge County and the state was in the finance, insurance, and real estate industry.

Environmentally Contaminated Sites for Commercial or Industrial Use

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) encourage the clean-up and use of environmentally contaminated sites for commercial and industrial use. The WDNR has created the Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment Tracking System (BRRTS) which identifies environmentally contaminated sites for communities in Wisconsin. The most commonly listed types of sites are the following:

- ♦ Spills, a discharge of a hazardous substances that may adversely impact, or threaten to adversely impact, public health, welfare, or the environment. Spills are usually cleaned up quickly.
- ♦ LUST, a Leaking Underground Storage Tank that has contaminated soil and/or groundwater with petroleum. Some LUST cleanups are reviewed by the DNR and some are reviewed by the Dept. of Commerce.

- ♦ ERP, Environmental Repair Program sites are sites other than LUSTs that have contaminated soil and/or groundwater. Often, these are old historic releases to the environment.
- ♦ VPLE, Voluntary Property Liability Exemptions apply to sites in which property owners conducts an environmental investigation and cleanup of an entire property and then receives limits on their future liability.
- ♦ Superfund, a federal program created by Congress in 1980 to finance cleanup of the nation's worst hazardous waste sites. Thirty-nine sites are currently found in Wisconsin.

According to the BRRTS database, there are 655 environmentally contaminated sites in Dodge County. Of the 655 sites, 308 are closed. Closed sites have completed all clean up requirements and have received a case closure letter from the DNR. The remaining 347 sites are open sites. Open sites are in need of clean up or clean up is underway. There are therefore 347 sites that could have potential for commercial or industrial use. However, some sites will be more adequately suited than others. Of the 347 open sites 247 are reported spill sites, 60 are LUST sites, 34 are ERP sites, 4 are VPLE, and 2 are Superfund sites. Table 6-8 lists open sites in the Town of Burnett. For more information review the available DNR database for sites that are located within the community (<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/brrts/index.htm>).

Table 6-7
Contaminated Sites in the Town of Burnett

Site Name or Location	Type	Spill Source Description/Cause
1. Helings	LUST	Contamination in Fractured Bedrock
2. STH 26 AND CTH E	SPILLS	Transportation Accident, Fuel Supply Tank Spill

6.4 Economic Development Trends

Agriculture dominated the Dodge County and Town of Burnett economy until the mid-20th century, at which point, manufacturing became a major source of employment and income. Trade and services have begun to emerge as major economic components. These trends formed the base of the current local economy. Over the next 20 years a number of economic trends are anticipated that will affect the existing economic base:

- ♦ The composition of the labor force will change due to continued decreases in family size and the aging of the population.
- ♦ Burnett will likely continue to depend heavily on the manufacturing sector of the economy. International and national economic trends will continue to affect the manufacturers found in Dodge County and the Town.
- ♦ Increases in automation and technology in manufacturing will change the existing manufacturing base and affect the labor force.

- ♦ Tourism will likely increase as a factor in the economy.
- ♦ The Town of Burnett will continue to be a desirable place to live, and transportation improvements will increase the ability of individuals to work outside the county resulting in increased population.

7

Intergovernmental Cooperation



7. Intergovernmental Cooperation

7.1 Introduction

This element identifies planning activities in and around the Town of Burnett, and provides a description of Wisconsin's statutes associated with intergovernmental cooperation.

In general terms, intergovernmental cooperation is any arrangement by which officials of two or more jurisdictions coordinate plans, policies, and programs to address and resolve issues of mutual interest. It can be as simple as communicating and sharing information, or it can involve entering into formal intergovernmental agreements and sharing resources such as equipment, buildings, staff, and revenue. It can even involve consolidating services, jurisdictions, or transferring territory.

Many issues cross jurisdictional boundaries, affecting more than one community. For example, air, water, and wildlife pass over the landscape regardless of boundaries so that one jurisdiction's activities with regard to air, water, and wildlife impacts other jurisdictions downwind or downstream.

Today, increased communication technologies and personal mobility mean that people, money, and resources also move across jurisdictions, as quickly and freely as air and water. Persons traveling along roadways use a network of transportation routes, moving between jurisdictions without even realizing it.

Frequently, the action of one governmental unit impacts others. Increasingly, we have come to the realization that many vital issues are regional in nature. Watersheds, economic conditions, commuter patterns, housing, media markets, and effects from growth and change are all issues that spill over municipal boundaries and impact the region as a whole.

Dodge County has 44 units of government, and special purpose districts defined as follows:

- 24 Towns
- 9 Cities
- 11 Villages
- 19 School Districts
- 10 Sanitary Districts
- 36 Drainage Districts
- 3 Lake Protection Districts

Having so many governmental units allows for very local representation and means that Dodge County and Town residents have numerous opportunities to participate in local decision-making. However, the number of governmental units with overlapping decision-making authority presents challenges. More governmental units can make communication, coordination, and effective action more difficult, creating a greater potential for conflict. Instead of communicating ideas within one jurisdiction, communication needs to move across multiple jurisdictions and involve multiple boards, commissions, committees, executives, administrators, and citizens. Goals between communities may differ and present challenges. More

governmental units may also mean unwanted and wasteful duplication in the delivery of community services. Cooperation can help avoid this.

Intergovernmental Cooperation Benefits

There are many reasons intergovernmental cooperation makes sense. The following are some examples:

- ♦ Cost savings – Cooperation can save money by increasing efficiency and avoiding unnecessary duplication. Cooperation can enable some communities to provide their residents with services that would otherwise be too costly.
- ♦ Address regional issues – By communicating and coordinating their actions, and working with county, regional and state jurisdictions, local communities are able to address and resolve issues which are regional in nature.
- ♦ Early identification of issues – Cooperation enables jurisdictions to identify and resolve potential conflicts at an early stage, before affected interests have established rigid positions, before the political stakes have been raised, and before issues have become conflicts or crises.
- ♦ Reduced litigation – Communities that cooperate are able to resolve issues before they become mired in litigation. Reducing the possibility of costly litigation can save a community money, as well as the disappointment and frustration of unwanted outcomes.
- ♦ Consistency – Cooperation can lead to consistency of the goals, objectives, plans, policies, and actions of neighboring communities and other jurisdictions.
- ♦ Predictability – Jurisdictions that cooperate provide greater predictability to residents, developers, businesses, and others. Lack of predictability can result in lost time, money, and opportunity.
- ♦ Understanding – As jurisdictions communicate and collaborate on issues of mutual interest, they become more aware of one another's needs and priorities. They can better anticipate problems and work to avoid them.
- ♦ Trust – Cooperation can lead to positive experiences and results that build trust between jurisdictions.
- ♦ History of success – When jurisdictions cooperate successfully in one area, the success creates positive feelings and an expectation that other intergovernmental issues can be resolved as well.
- ♦ Service to citizens – The biggest beneficiaries of intergovernmental cooperation are citizens for whom government was created in the first place. They may not understand, or even care about, the intricacies of particular intergovernmental issues, but all County

residents can appreciate their benefits, such as costs savings, provision of needed services, a healthy environment, and a strong economy.

7.2 Multi-Jurisdictional Plan Building Process

In order to facilitate meaningful opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation, the Dodge County Comprehensive Plan and 19 local plans were partially built utilizing a regional meeting approach. This approach grouped the participating communities into one of five regions (See Map 1-2, Regional Plan Groupings). The regions were arranged based on: their location in the county, common features such as agriculture, highways and river corridors, and shared service areas for utilities and emergency services.

The regional meeting approach provided an excellent forum for communities to discuss and resolve issues. Each meeting involved three phases. During the first phase, general trends and other information were presented at the beginning of each meeting. The second phase involved “breakout” sessions, whereby each community met with an assigned planner to work through issues and concerns specific to each community. The third phase involved the communities getting back together to present findings and solutions.

7.3 Wisconsin Intergovernmental Agreement Statutes

Intergovernmental Cooperation

Wisconsin Statute, 66.0301 permits local agreements between the state, cities, villages, towns, counties, regional planning commissions, and certain special districts, including school districts, public library systems, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts, sanitary districts, farm drainage districts, metropolitan sewerage districts, sewer utility districts, Indian tribes or bands, and others.

Intergovernmental agreements prepared in accordance with s. 66.0301, formerly s. 66.30, are the most common form of agreement and have been used by communities for years, often in the context of sharing public services such as police, fire, or rescue. This type of agreement can also be used to provide for revenue sharing, determine future land use within a subject area, and to set temporary municipal boundaries. However, the statute does not require planning as a component of any agreement and boundary changes have to be accomplished through the normal annexation process.

Boundary Agreements Pursuant to Approved Cooperative Plan

Under 66.0307, Wisconsin Statutes, combinations of municipalities may prepare cooperative boundary plans or agreements. Each city, village, or town that intends to participate in the preparation of a cooperative plan must adopt a resolution authorizing its participation in the planning process.

Cooperative boundary plans or agreements involve decisions regarding the maintenance or change of municipal boundaries for a period of 10 years or more. The cooperative plan must include a plan for the physical development of the territory covered by the plan, a schedule for changes to the boundary, plans for the delivery of services, an evaluation of environmental

features, and a description of any adverse environmental consequences that may result from the implementation of the plan. It must also address the need for safe and affordable housing. The participating communities must hold a public hearing prior to its adoption. Once adopted, the plan must be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Commerce for State approval. Upon approval, the cooperative plan has the force and effect of a contract.

Creation, Organization, Powers, and Duties of a Regional Planning Commission

Wisconsin Statute 66.0309 permits local governments to petition the governor to create a regional planning commission (RPC). If local support for a commission is unanimous, the governor may create it by executive order. The governor may also create a commission if local governments representing over 50% of the population or assessed valuation of the proposed region consent to the creation. Commission members are appointed by either local governments or the governor.

State Statutes require the RPC to perform three major functions:

- ♦ Make and adopt a comprehensive plan for the physical development of the region.
- ♦ If requested by a local unit, report recommendations to that local unit on the location or acquisition of land for any of the items or facilities which are included in the adopted regional comprehensive plan.
- ♦ Make an annual report of its activities to the legislative bodies of the local governmental units within the region.

RPCs are also authorized to perform several other functions, however, by law, they serve a strictly advisory role.

Dodge, Columbia, Jefferson, Rock, and Sauk Counties are the only counties in the state that are not part of a Regional Planning Commission.

Municipal Revenue Sharing

Wisconsin Statute, 66.0305, Municipal Revenue Sharing, gives authority to cities, villages, and towns to enter into agreements to share revenue from taxes and special charges with each other. The agreements may also address other matters, including agreements regarding services to be provided or the location of municipal boundaries.

Boundaries of the shared revenue area must be specified in the agreement and the term of the agreement must be for at least 10 years. The formula or other means for sharing revenue, the date of payment of revenues, and the means by which the agreement was made may be invalidated after the minimum 10-year period.

Annexation

Wisconsin Statute, 66.021, Annexation of Territory, provides three petition methods by which annexation may occur. Annexation involves the transfer of one or more tax parcels from a town to a city or village. Cities and villages cannot annex property without the consent of landowners as required by the following petition procedures:

1. Unanimous approval - A petition is signed by all of the electors residing in the territory and the owners of all of the real property included within the petition.
2. Notice of intent to circulate petition (direct petition for annexation) - The petition must be signed by a majority of electors in the territory and the owners of one-half of the real property either in value or in land area. If no electors reside in the territory, then only the landowners need sign the petition.
3. Annexation by referendum - A petition requesting a referendum election on the question of annexation may be filed with the city or village when signed by at least 20 percent of the electors in the territory.

Incorporation

Wisconsin Statutes, 66.0201, Incorporation of Villages and Cities; Purpose and Definitions, and 66.0211, Incorporation Referendum Procedure, regulate the process of creating new villages and cities from town territory. Wisconsin Statute, 66.0207, Standards to be applied by the department, identifies the criteria that have to be met prior to approval of incorporation.

The incorporation process requires filing an incorporation petition with circuit court. Then, the incorporation must meet certain statutory criteria reviewed by the Municipal Boundary Review Section of the Wisconsin Department of Administration. These criteria include:

- ♦ Minimum standards of homogeneity and compactness, and the presence of a “well developed community center;”
- ♦ Minimum density and assessed valuation standards for territory beyond the core;
- ♦ A review of the budget and tax base in order to determine whether or not the area proposed for incorporation could support itself financially;
- ♦ An analysis of the adequacy of government services compared to those available from neighboring jurisdictions;
- ♦ An analysis of the impact incorporation of a portion of the town would have on the remainder, financially or otherwise; and
- ♦ An analysis of the impact the incorporation would have on the metropolitan region.

Extraterritorial Zoning

Wisconsin Statute, 62.23(7a), Extraterritorial Zoning, allows a city with a population of 10,000 or more to adopt zoning in town territory, three miles beyond a city's corporate limits. A city or village with a population less than 10,000 may adopt zoning 1.5 miles beyond its corporate limits. If the extraterritorial area of two municipalities overlaps, jurisdiction is divided between them as provided under s. 66.0105.

Under extraterritorial zoning authority, a city or village may enact an interim zoning ordinance that freezes existing zoning, or, if there is no zoning, existing uses while a plan and regulations are developed. The statute provides that the interim ordinance may be for two years.

A joint extraterritorial zoning committee must be established consisting of three city or village plan commission members and three town members. The city or village plan commission works with the joint committee in preparing the plan and regulations. The joint committee must approve the plan and regulations by a majority vote before they take affect.

The City of Horicon does not utilize its extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction in the Town of Burnett.

Extraterritorial Subdivision Review

Wisconsin Statute, 236.10, Approvals Necessary, allows a city or village to exercise its extraterritorial plat review authority in the same geographic area as defined within the extraterritorial zoning statute. However, extraterritorial zoning requires town approval of the zoning ordinance, while extraterritorial plat approval applies automatically if the city or village adopts a subdivision ordinance or official map. The town does not approve the subdivision ordinance for the city or village. The city or village may waive its extraterritorial plat approval authority if it does not wish to use it. Extraterritorial Jurisdiction in Dodge County can be reviewed on Map 7-1 in Appendix A.

The purpose of extraterritorial plat approval jurisdiction is to help cities and villages influence the development pattern of areas outside their boundaries that will likely be annexed to the city or village. Overlapping authority by incorporated municipalities is prohibited. This situation is handled by drawing a line of equal distance from the boundaries of the city and/or village so that not more than one ordinance will apply.

A portion of Burnett is subject to the plat review authority of the City of Horicon.

7.4 Inventory of Plans for Communities in Dodge County

In Dodge County, 19 of 44 communities are participating in the development of the Dodge County Multi-Jurisdiction Comprehensive Plan (See Map 1-2, Multi-Jurisdiction Plan Groupings). Of the remaining 25 communities, six have land use plans, six have comprehensive plans that are not "Smart Growth" compliant, six have Comprehensive "Smart Growth" Plans, and seven do not have any plans (See Map 7-2, Status of Planning in Dodge County).

Land Use Plans

- ◆ Town of Calamus, Town of Clyman, Town of Hubbard, Town of Lowell, Village of Hustisford, and City of Hartford.

Comprehensive Plans

- ◆ Town of Chester, Town of Theresa, Town of Williamstown, City of Beaver Dam, City of Horicon, and City of Waupun.

"Smart Growth" Comprehensive Plans

- ◆ Town of Beaver Dam, Town of Emmet, Town of Lebanon, City of Columbus, City of Fox Lake, and City of Watertown.

No Plans

- ◆ Town of Oak Grove, Town of Westford, Village of Clyman, Village of Kekoskee, Village of Lowell, Village of Randolph, and Village of Reeseville.

7.5 Inventory of Existing Intergovernmental Agreements

Mutual aid agreements exist between communities throughout the county to address police, fire, and ambulance services. Mutual aid agreements allow communities to share equipment and resources.

Various informal and formal agreements exist between communities throughout the county to address sharing services and facilities such as parks, road maintenance, snowplowing, and library funding.

There is no formal boundary agreement between the City of Horicon and the Town of Burnett.

7.6 Analysis of the Town of Burnett's Relationship with School Districts, Local Governmental Units, Other Jurisdictions, Neighboring Counties, Region, and State

Adjacent Governmental Units

The Town of Burnett shares borders with the Town of Chester to the north, Town of Williamstown to the east, Town of Oak Grove to the south, and Towns of Beaver Dam and Trenton to the west. The City of Horicon is located along the southeast corner of the Town.

Relationship

The Town of Burnett's relationship with the adjacent towns can be characterized as one of mutual respect. Towns are not incorporated and cannot annex land. Therefore, the borders between the Town of Burnett and adjacent towns are fixed and boundary disputes are virtually

nonexistent. The providing of public services such as snow plowing or road maintenance are conducted individually by each Town, however, some cooperation does exist at the borders between towns.

Siting and Building Public Facilities

The Town of Burnett does not currently share any public facilities with other governmental units. Likewise no plans exists to jointly site any public facility with another governmental unit.

Sharing Public Services

Currently the Town of Burnett provides its own fire protection service, the Burnett Volunteer Fire Department. Ambulance service is provided by the City of Horicon, with the City of Juneau providing back-up service.

County Departments such as Planning and Development and Highway offer services for assistance beyond the required level of service. For towns that have adopted the County Land Use Code, the County administers the land use regulations in those towns. The Planning and Development Department also provides planning services for a fee to any municipality. Many communities have taken advantage of this service over the years.

The County Highway Department maintains the County highway system, a public service all County citizens utilize. The County Highway Department also installs driveway culverts and road name signs for those towns that choose to pay for such an additional service.

The Dodge County Sheriff's Department provides police protection to the Town of Burnett, as well as most other municipalities in the County.

The Horicon Marsh Wildlife Area and the Horicon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge is located in the east portion of the Town. The Horicon Marsh is divided between a federal owned area and a state owned area, and it provides citizens with hunting, hiking, and nature observation opportunities.

School Districts

A majority of the Town of Burnett is located within the Horicon School District. However, some of the Town is covered by two other school districts. These districts include the Beaver Dam and Waupun School Districts.

Relationship

The Town of Burnett's relationship with the school districts can be characterized as limited. The school districts tend to operate rather independently and interaction with the Town tends to be minimal.

Siting School Facilities

The siting of new school facilities is mainly conducted by the school districts. The Town has historically had little input into the location of new school facilities.

Sharing School Facilities

No formal agreement between the School Districts and the Town exists for the shared use of school facilities. The schools outdoor recreational facilities also provide opportunities to residents of the Town.

Region

The Town of Burnett is located in the south-central region of the State of Wisconsin. The Town of Burnett is located in the north central portion of Dodge County. Dodge County and the Town of Burnett are not part of a regional planning commission. Therefore, the Town's relationship with the region is quite limited as there is no regional entity for the Town to be involved with.

State

The Town of Burnett's relationship with the State of Wisconsin mainly involves state aids for local roads and the administering of various state mandates to Towns.

7.7 Intergovernmental Cooperation Trends

The following intergovernmental trends are anticipated during the planning period in the Town:

- ◆ Intergovernmental cooperation will increase as state, county, and local governments strive to spend less money more efficiently.
- ◆ Comprehensive planning will help communities share information and identify opportunities for shared services and facilities.
- ◆ Growing communities without growth management staff may need to address administrative applications, joint management or shared services and staff with other communities for building inspection or land use permitting procedures.
- ◆ The sharing of employees, equipment, and facilities will increase locally to meet demand at reduced costs.
- ◆ The City of Horicon is continuing to grow, therefore annexation and other land use conflicts may occur between the Town and the City.

8 Land Use



8. Land Use

8.1 Introduction

This element provides an analysis of existing land use in Burnett. Transportation networks, ownership patterns (public and private), natural resources, market forces, existing ordinances, and resource management activities all contribute to the pattern of development that occurs in the Town.

8.2 Existing Land Use

Land use is a means of broadly classifying different types of activities relating to how land is used. The type, location, density, and geographic extent of developed and undeveloped lands influence community character, quality of life, public service needs (e.g., roads, utilities, parks, emergency services), tax base, and availability of jobs throughout the Town.

The land use pattern in Burnett consists mostly of agricultural land and scattered residential development. The Horicon Marsh Wildlife Area occupies approximately the eastern one-third of the Town and the unincorporated Village of Burnett is located near the center of the Town adjacent to STH 26. The existing land uses in the Town of Burnett are shown on Map 8-1, Existing Land Use and are included in Table 8-1, Existing Land Use.

Table 8-1
Existing Land Use, Town of Burnett

Land Use Category	Number	% of Total
Single Family Residential	313.1	1.3%
Two Family Residential	0.0	0.0%
Multi-Family Residential	1.0	0.0%
Mobile Home Parks	0.0	0.0%
Commercial	8.8	0.0%
Industrial & Quarries	209.7	0.9%
Public & Quasi-Public	91.5	0.4%
Transportation	489.3	2.1%
Parks & Recreation	478.1	2.0%
Communication & Utilities	1.0	0.0%
Water Features	409.5	1.8%
Agricultural & Other Resource Land	21,384.5	91.4%
Total	23,386.4	100.0%

Agricultural and Other Resource Land

By far the largest of the land use categories is the combined total for agriculture and other resource land, which is a reflection of the large amount of prime agricultural soils found in the Town. Agriculture and other resource land accounts for 21,384.5 acres of land or 91.4 percent of

the Town of Burnett's 23,386.3 total acres. Agricultural uses occupy over 52 percent of the total land area. This category also includes wetlands and open space areas.

Woodlands: Woodlands account for approximately 3% of total land use in Dodge County, and about 4.2 percent in the Town of Burnett (987 acres). Woodlands tend to be scattered throughout the Town and located in or near wetland areas.

Wetlands: Wetland areas are very prevalent in the Town, with larger concentrations within the northern and eastern regions of the Town. Wetlands account for 8,035 acres, or about 34.4 percent of the Town. Large wetland areas are found west of STH 26 interspersed in the agricultural areas. The Horicon Marsh Wildlife Area is a very large land area within this category, and occupies the eastern majority of the town. The Horicon Marsh occupies about 6,300 acres in the Town. The acreage total is included here due to the land use calculation method used by Dodge County.

When planning for the conservation and development of agricultural and resource lands, the questions of how much and should be developed, where agricultural land conversions should or should not take place, and at what density development should be allowed are primary issues of the land use planning process.

Residential

Residential development in Burnett consists almost exclusively of single family housing, including farmsteads. Residential development is mostly scattered throughout the Town, and generally follows transportation corridors. Over the last five years, 18 new homes were built in the Town, and a majority of them (15) were constructed in the rural areas outside of the unincorporated village. Multi-family residences for all practical purposes are non-existent in the Town. Residential development was identified in every section of the Town, however, most residential development is concentrated in three areas; the unincorporated Village of Burnett, the unincorporated Village of Burnett Corners, and along Whitetail Road. The unincorporated Village of Burnett has the highest concentration of development and does have a sanitary district and associated sewer services. Residential land uses account for 313 acres of land or 1.3 percent of the total land area.

Commercial

Commercial uses account for a very small percentage of land use in the Town as the existing commercial acreage is approximately nine acres. There are a number of commercial operations located in unincorporated Village of Burnett. The commercial development includes a bank, three taverns, a wedding hall and a furniture restoration business. Most of the commercial developments are located along or adjacent to STH 26.

Industrial

Industrial development uses make up only for less than one percent or about 209 acres of land area in the Town. There is a trucking company located near the intersection of Swan Road and STH 26 and an asphalt plant is located close to STH 26 near the southern border of the Town.

There is also a grain elevator and several small industrial operations in the incorporated Village of Burnett. This land use category also includes gravel and mining operations which accounts for a large majority of the acreage in the Town.

Public and Quasi-Public

Public and Quasi-Public land uses occupy about 91 acres, or about 0.4 percent of the land area in the Town. Public and Quasi-Public land uses perform a support function to the people living and working in Burnett. Generally, these uses include government facilities, institutions, cemeteries, schools, churches, prisons, and public buildings. The amount of land devoted to these uses is not large in comparison to the other land use categories, but these facilities provide critical support and employment opportunities to the residents of the Town.

Parks and Recreation

The Town of Burnett has about 478 acres of land that are dedicated for use as parks and recreational land outside of the Horicon Marsh Wildlife Area. Examples include the Town Fireman's Park, The Wild Goose State Trail, the Horicon Rod and Gun Club, the Antique Power Club, and the Federal Waterfowl Hatchery. The remaining recreational land is owned by the state, federal or county government. The effects of a growing population, growing interest in outdoor activities, and increased mobility will place greater demands on recreational facilities in the Town and in Dodge County as a whole.

Transportation

Transportation related land use features include local roads, county and state highways, and railroad corridors. In the Town of Burnett, transportation related land uses occupy 489 acres of land or about two percent of the total land area. The local road system serves as the most expensive investment and the highest expense item for the town for both short-term maintenance and long-term capital improvements. Most of the development in the town utilizes the local road system to access property. In terms of land use, most of the residentially developed property lies within 300 feet of a local road.

Communication and Utilities

Communication and utilities land use features include power lines, electrical substations, wastewater treatment plants, water towers, recycling centers and telecommunication towers. In the Town of Burnett, the majority of land in this category is occupied by a Town dump and recycling facility. Communication and utility land uses occupy approximately five acres of land.

8.3 Supply, Demand, and Price Trends of Land

Table 8-2 displays information on agricultural land sales in Dodge County from 1998 to 2001.

Table 8-2
Agricultural Land Sales, Dodge County, 1998-2001

	1998	1999	2000	2001	# Change 1998-01	% Change 1998-01
Ag Land Continuing in Ag Use						
Number of Transactions	78	65	46	39	-39	-50.0%
Acres Sold	6,379	5,633	4,171	2,917	-3,462	-54.3%
Dollars per Acre	\$2,114	\$2,165	\$2,112	\$2,665	\$551	26.1%
Ag Land Being Diverted to Other Uses						
Number of Transactions	17	16	27	17	0	0.0%
Acres Sold	858	749	1,404	624	-234	-27.3%
Dollars per Acre	\$3,113	\$2,822	\$3,389	\$3,358	\$245	7.9%
Total of all Ag Land						
Number of Transactions	95	81	73	56	-39	-41.1%
Acres Sold	7,237	6,382	5,575	3,541	-3,696	-51.1%
Dollars per Acre	\$2,232	\$2,242	\$2,434	\$2,788	\$556	24.9%

Source: Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service, Agricultural Land Sales, 1998-2001.

As indicated in Table 8-2, the amount of agricultural land sold in Dodge County has been decreasing since 1998. However, the value of the acres sold has been increasing. In 2001, the value of agricultural land that is sold for other uses is valued higher than agricultural land that continues in agricultural use. However, the value of agricultural land continuing in agricultural use increased by 26.1% from 1998-2001, while the value of land diverted to other uses rose only 7.9%.

Supply of Land

Land area in the Town of Burnett is a fixed commodity. Unincorporated towns do not have the power to annex land. Furthermore, the Town of Burnett does not contain or currently abut an incorporated municipality that has the power to annex land from the Town. However, the City of Horicon is located near the southeast portion of the Town and the city may extend into the Town of Burnett during the planning period. Therefore, the total land area of the Town could be reduced as development occurs in that area. Town land use policies will play a large role in the potential impact of land supply.

Demand for Land

Demand for land in the Town of Burnett can be classified as moderate. The Town's location near the Cities of Beaver Dam and Horicon and a quiet rural setting make the Town a desirable place to locate a residence. In addition, areas near the Horicon Marsh provide attractive residential settings. Demand for commercial and industrial land will most likely be very limited. The variances in market conditions and crop pricing levels can have significant impacts on land demands and how lands are either maintained or converted from agricultural uses. High crop and product prices may lead to high demand for farmland; low prices may lead to more farmland being offered for other uses.

Price of Land

There is a moderate demand for rural residential lots in the Town of Burnett and the rest of Dodge County as well. Unimproved rural lots usually range between one to three acres in size and do not have public services such as sewer or water. Generally, these unimproved vacant lots have selling prices ranging between \$20,000 and \$40,000 in the Burnett area. In addition, agricultural property in the Burnett area has seen increased competition among agricultural interests in the area. Recently, agricultural land has been selling for approximately \$2,000 an acre.

Opportunities for Redevelopment

Redevelopment opportunities in the Town of Burnett are somewhat limited due to the low density of development and relatively limited commercial and industrial market demands. The few developments that could be redeveloped are either being used in some less intensive form or are not in demand. No significant areas of land are in need of redevelopment in the Town.

8.4 Land Use Programs

Land development and building activity in the Town of Burnett is subject to both Town and County regulations. Land use within the Town is regulated by the Town of Burnett Zoning Ordinance as well as The Dodge County Land Use Code. The Zoning Ordinance is administered by the Town of Burnett and the Dodge County Land Use Code is administered by the Dodge County Planning and Development Department. The Town and County land use regulations are described in more detail below.

Dodge County Land Use Code

The Dodge County Land Use Code was adopted by the Dodge County Board in March of 2000. The Code establishes 10 primary use districts, as well as 7 overlay districts. The A-1 Prime Agricultural, Wetland, and A-2 General Agricultural Districts comprise the three largest zoning districts found in the Town. The zoning regulations contained in the Land Use Code are only in effect in the shoreland areas of the Town. The Airport Height Limitation Overlay district does cover a significant area in the southern portion of the Town of Burnett. All other sections of the Land Use Code apply in the Town of Burnett and are described below.

Floodplain Overlay District

The Floodplain Overlay District was originally adopted as the Floodplain Zoning Ordinance by the Dodge County Board in 1981 in response to a mandate by the state. The Floodplain Overlay District is in effect within the 100 year floodplain as identified on the Flood Insurance Rate Map developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The Floodplain Overlay District sets up guidelines, restrictions, and criteria for development within the 100 year floodplain

Shoreland-Wetland Overlay District

The County Shoreland-Wetland Overlay District was originally adopted as the Shoreland-Wetland Ordinance by the Dodge County Board in 1984, also in response to a mandate by the state. The Shoreland-Wetland Overlay District is in effect within 1,000 feet of a navigable lake, pond, or flowage, within 300 feet of a navigable river or stream, or within floodplain areas. Wetlands documented in the Wisconsin Wetland Inventory of 1994 and located within a shoreland area are protected, with few exceptions, from draining, filling, and grading under the Shoreland-Wetland Overlay District.

Subdivision Design and Improvement Regulations

The Subdivision Design and Improvement Regulations were originally adopted as the Subdivision Control Ordinance by the Dodge County Board in 1968 and were revised in 1973. These regulations control the divisions of land within unincorporated areas for the purpose of; facilitating provision of public services, facilitating orderly divisions and developments, and restricting building sites in environmentally sensitive areas or on lands poorly suited for development.

Under these regulations, the County requires the recording of approved certified survey maps for minor subdivisions which create less than five parcels. Minor subdivision approval begins with the filing of a letter of intent. The County Planning and Development Committee decides whether to grant or deny the proposal. Upon approval by the Committee, a certified survey map is submitted for final approval and recorded. Table 8-3 shows the land divisions for the past five years in the Town of Burnett. Since 1999, there have been a total of 27 letters of intent, an average of 5.4 per year. Sometimes the letters of intent do not formulate into an actual land division, as shown by the total of 19 actual certified survey maps that were approved since 1999, an average of 3.8 approvals per year. The number of actual lots created is also 19.

Major subdivisions resulting in five or more lots are also regulated under the Land Use Code. Chapter 236 of the Wisconsin Statutes requires platting when there are five or more lots of 1.5 acres or less. The County Subdivision Design and Improvement Regulations within the Land Use Code go beyond the requirements of Chapter 236 in requiring platting when five or more lots are created regardless of their size. However, the County Planning and Development Committee can waive the additional platting requirement. There were no subdivisions created between 1999 and 2005.

Table 8-3
Letters of Intent and Certified Survey Maps
Town of Burnett, 1999-2003

Year	Letters of Intent	Certified Survey Map
1999	6	4
2000	7	4
2001	4	3
2002	6	4
2003	4	4
Total	27	19

Source: Dodge County Planning and Development Department

Sanitary Facilities Overlay District

The Sanitary Facilities Overlay District assists in guiding development to lands with appropriate soil conditions. The Sanitary Facilities Overlay District was originally adopted as the County Sanitary Ordinance in 1968 and is a state mandate in effect on all lands within Dodge County. This Overlay District regulates the location, construction, installation, alteration, design and use of all private sewage disposal systems. Table 8-4 summarizes the number of permits issued for new and replacement private sanitary systems within the Town of Burnett over the past 10 years. Mound systems have accounted for about 51.7 percent of the new and replacement systems since 1994, while conventional systems have accounted for about 23.3 percent.

Table 8-4
Number of Permits Issued for On-Site Sanitary Systems by Year
Town of Burnett, 1994-2003

Year	Conventional	At-Grade	Mound	Holding Tank	Other	Total
1994	1	0	3	0	1	5
1995	0	0	3	0	1	4
1996	1	0	4	0	2	7
1997	2	0	5	0	0	7
1998	3	0	2	0	1	6
1999	0	2	0	0	1	3
2000	3	3	2	1	0	9
2001	0	1	2	0	0	3
2002	4	0	4	0	0	8
2003	0	1	6	0	1	8

Source: Dodge County Planning and Development

Under the Town Zoning Ordinance, land development and building activity require the issuance of a building permit. The application can be filed with the building inspector. Figure 4 shows the building permit activity in the Town of Burnett from 1985 to 1999. Over this 15 year period, an average of 29.5 Building Permits was issued for all types of construction, of which an average of 2.5 were for new home construction. Between 1995 and 1999, permits for all construction

averaged 35.2 permits per year, slightly higher than the 15 year average in the Town. Furthermore, over the same five year period, permits for new homes in Burnett averaged 4.2 per year.

Under the Town Zoning Ordinance, land development and building activity require the issuance of a Land Use Permit. The application can be filed with the Land Use Administrator. Figure 8-2 shows the Land Use Permit activity in the Town of Burnett from 1999 to 2003. Over this six year period, an average of four (4) new housing units was constructed each year.

Figure 8-1: Building Permits for All Construction and New Home, Burnett 1985-1999

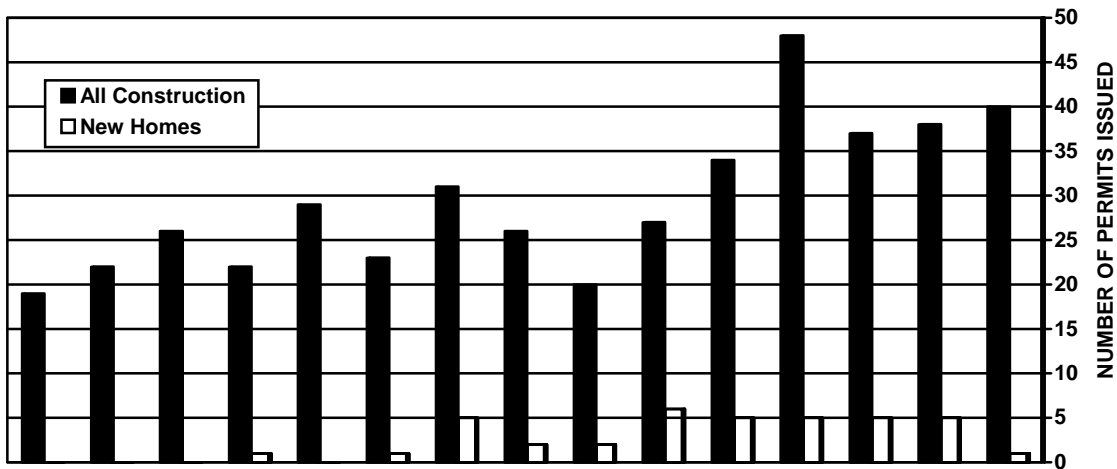
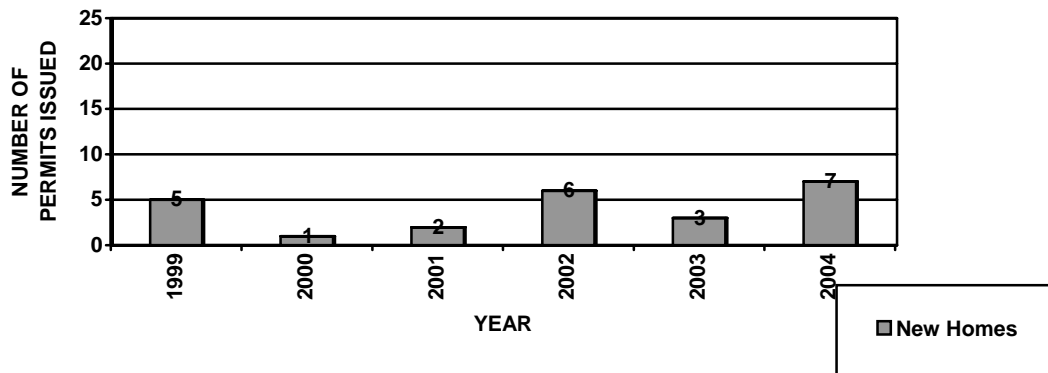


Figure 8-2: Land Use Permits for New Homes, Burnett 1999-2004



Source: Town of Burnett, General Engineering

8.5 Land and Resource Management

Land and resource management takes place under both private and public land ownership. Public and private land and resource management programs are important in preserving the county's rural character and natural resource base. There are three voluntary management programs, Managed Forest Law (MFL), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and the Agricultural Preservation Program which occur throughout Dodge County.

Managed Forest Law (MFL)

The MFL program is administered by the WDNR. The purpose of the Managed Forest Law is to promote sound forestry management practices by providing property tax reduction incentives to landowners. Wooded parcels at least 10 acres in size are eligible to be enrolled in the program. At least 80% of the land must be productive forest land in order to be eligible for the program. Lands may be enrolled for either 25 or 50-year periods. This requires a long-term commitment from the property owners, but also provides long term protection from property tax escalations.

Preparation of an approved forestry management plan is required, which can be prepared by a WDNR forester at no charge. Practices identified in the plan must be carried out for the duration of the contract period. Mandatory management activities required by the law include cutting mature timber, thinning plantations and natural stands, pine releases, planting, post harvest treatments, and soil conservation practices. Landowners have the right to close up to 80 acres of their land to the public, otherwise the land is classified as open, and public access is permitted for hunting, fishing, cross-county skiing, sight seeing, and hiking.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

The CRP is the Federal Government's largest environmental protection program in existence. Administered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the purpose of the program is to provide wildlife benefits, tree planting benefits, water quality benefits, and economic benefits. CRP is a voluntary approach to improving the environment using partnerships between government and private landowners. The program provides incentives to farmers for establishing conservation practices, which benefit resources both on and off the farm. Incentives are in the form of annual rental payments and cost-share assistance in return for establishing long-term, resource conserving measures on eligible lands. Rental payments are based on the agricultural rental value of the land, and cost-share assistance is provided in the amount up to 50% of the participant's costs to establish approved practices. The contract duration is from 10-15 years.

Farmland Preservation Program

The Farmland Preservation Program is available to landowners who own at least 35 acres of land zoned for exclusive agricultural uses, or land that is under a long term preservation agreement with the state, and can show \$6,000 gross farm profits from the land per year. Land must remain zoned for exclusive agricultural uses and cropland must be farmed so that soil erosion rates comply with conservation standards. In Dodge County this program is managed by the Dodge County Land Conservation Department, and the Planning and Development Department. Map 8-2, Appendix A, displays the properties participating in the program. In the Town of Burnett, there are 10,749 acres (46% of the Town's total acreage) enrolled in the Farmland Preservation Program. The acreage total does not necessarily mean that all of the enrolled acreage is utilized for production, just that the lands are enrolled for tax credits.

8.6 Land Use Regulation

Town of Burnett Zoning Ordinance

Zoning is probably the single most commonly used legal device for controlling land uses in a community. A zoning ordinance should be designed to promote the health, safety, morals, prosperity, aesthetics, and general welfare of the community. Each regulation in the zoning ordinance must bear a reasonable relationship to these ends.

Wisconsin State Statute 66.0295 requires any community that engages in land use regulations, including zoning, to have an adopted comprehensive plan as defined by the State of Wisconsin by January 1, 2010. This Comprehensive Plan satisfies the State's requirements. As of January 1, 2010, all land use decisions, including rezonings must be consistent with the comprehensive plan. Any decision inconsistent with the comprehensive plan may not be considered legally defensible under the statutes.

The Town of Burnett Zoning Ordinance was adopted by the Town Board in 1981. Map 9-1, Existing Zoning display's the Town's existing zoning map. The ordinance regulates the use and development of all structures, land and water. Furthermore, the Town Zoning Ordinance helps to facilitate the provision of public services and to stabilize and protect property values. Subsequent to completion of the 2001 Land Use Plan, the Town engaged in updating the 1981 zoning

ordinance. A committee was formed with representatives of the Plan Commission, Town Board, and Board of Adjustments. Due to the timing conflict with the zoning code update with the start of comprehensive plan, the Town of Burnett was suspended the zoning code update to enable the planning process to provide full value in the decision process relative to land use and density issues.

The 1981 Town of Burnett Zoning Ordinance is still in effect, and has 15 primary use districts. Only eight of the 15 districts are currently being used and a number of the districts overlap and duplicate the uses of other districts.

In general, the A-1 Prime Agricultural, CO Conservancy, and General Agricultural Districts comprise the three largest zoning districts found in the Town. Of the Zoning Districts found within the Town of Burnett, only the Conservancy District prohibits all forms of residential development. Thus, over two-thirds of the land area of the Town has the potential of being used in some manner for residential purposes. Currently, if no changes to the Town zoning code are adopted, most of the Town is zoned A-1 Prime Agricultural requiring a minimum of 35 acres for the creation of a residential lot. This zoning was intended to discourage residential development on or adjacent to productive agricultural lands or operations. The desire to live in the “country” along with an increasing level of affluence has made the need to buy 35 acres for a rural residence more of an inconvenience than a discouragement. Such rural residential development greatly impacts agriculture.

Recent revisions to the code have produced eight proposed districts. The revisions have not been adopted by the Town of Burnett. The proposed districts are discussed in more detail in the Recommendations Report. The proposed districts are as follows:

A-1	Prime Agriculture
A-2	General Agriculture
R-1	Single Family Residential
R-D	Rural Development
RC	Recreational
CO	Conservancy
C-1	Commercial
I-1	Industrial

8.7 Existing and Potential Land Use Conflicts

The following list represents existing and potential land use conflicts that need to be considered by the Town of Burnett when planning for the future.

- ♦ Increasing pressure to convert farmland to residential use is expected.
- ♦ The density and location of new development will be the primary issue in both agricultural land preservation and residential growth demands.
- ♦ An increase in the number of large animal confinement operations may have a negative impact on nearby non-farm residences.

- ◆ Annexation conflicts between the Town and the City of Horicon are possible.
- ◆ A possible realignment of STH 26 or expansion to a four lane highway would have a significant impact on land use in the Town.
- ◆ The proposed Wal-Mart distribution center being located only two miles from the Town of Burnett, may increase the demand for housing in Burnett.
- ◆ The location of new residential development and the utilization of existing public investment in the Burnett Sanitary District could be a conflict as new development may create the need for additional investment and maintenance of the sewer system.

8.8 Land Use Trends and Outlook

Changes in land use are related to changes in population, housing, transportation, community services, agriculture, natural resources, and economic development. The following land use trends are anticipated in Burnett over the next 20 to 25 years.

- ◆ Burnett's population and the number of housing units will continue to grow.
- ◆ The number of persons per household will continue to decrease requiring more housing units and more land to accommodate the Town's growing population.
- ◆ The Town's woodlands and highland areas will be desired for residential development.
- ◆ A major two lane highway corridor, STH 26, passes through the Town. The possible realignment of the highway or expansion of the highway to four lanes would have a strong influence on nearby development patterns.
- ◆ Industrial and commercial development near the intersection of USH 151 and CTH A in the City of Beaver Dam will increase the demand for housing throughout the Town.
- ◆ Agriculture will maintain a strong presence in Burnett. There will likely be a decreasing number of total farms, but an increasing number of large farms.
- ◆ STH 26 will continue to act as Burnett's Mainstreet and be a significant force in attracting (and being targeted for) additional commercial development.
- ◆ The regional highway system will offer efficient access to regional employment.
- ◆ Lower density development in rural areas will lead to increased costs of maintaining and developing transportation facilities.

